

B.A.R.

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WELCOME, LIZ & PHIL!

Supervisors Put Gay on Bridge Board

Nelder Says "No"

by Michael Benzry

At their last meeting in February the San Francisco Board of Supervisors — in a rare show of near unanimity — voted in the first Gay as a Director of the Golden Gate Bridge Board.



Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross — supervisors' choice, 10 to 1. (Photo: Rink)

On February 28, Bob Ross, publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*, was voted 10-1 as a new director. The sole dissenting vote was that of Board president Wendy Nelder.

Gay Board watchers were quick to interpret Nelder's lone negative as a vote against the Gay community. The vote was seen as portentous, for should Dianne Feinstein lose in her bid

to beat the recall vote April 26, Nelder automatically becomes mayor. Her vote was even more curious, as there were no other serious contenders for the slot.

Ross will attend his first meeting this week. The 19-member board meets formally the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Individual members are assigned to committees which also meet several times a month. Eight San Franciscans sit on the board, four of whom are supervisors. The Bridge Board covers five counties: San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and Mendocino.

The post is unsalaried; the members receive \$50 per meeting for expenses. Ross said that one of his priorities would be to check into the feasibility of getting bus service to the Russian River, a popular Gay enclave.

PRIOR HEARING

On February 24 the Rules and Legislation Committee of the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to review applicants for a position on the Golden Gate Bridge Board. Ross was the front-runner for the vacancy created by the resig-

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The mighty Mr. Pierce as "QE II." (Photo: B. Cogan)

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The Kindness of Strangers

A Tribute to Tennessee Williams

by Dan Turner

The spirit of Tom Williams could be anywhere just now because even in its human shape he asked me once, "Do you like to travel?" I answered yes, and he said "That's good. I live on Pan Am." It is hard to imagine the death of a man who enjoyed living so much. He was always worried that he would die too soon and not get to experience the varied richness of life which to him meant observing everyone with his steady eyes.

His plays are peopled with characters in their pure form. He gave us the soul of Stanley Kowalski and Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Marlon Brando auditioned for Williams and his first big role; white T-shirts have been popular with Gay men ever since. The spirit of raw male sex is built into Williams' lines as well as embodied in the chest of Brando. That animal howl for "Stella!" comes from the guts of Williams, just as surely as those were his dresses that Blanche DuBois stored in her trunk. Tennessee could be both man and woman and keep them separated on the stage. His observations were so keen that we are able to play the roles ourselves in Gay bars — whether it is Stanley or Blanche we choose to be for the evening.

Williams asked me to be his secretary in the summer of 1976. He was 65 then and had no plans for retirement. I jumped at the opportunity and asked the friend who introduced us, "What does he expect?" "I told him you type," came the answer. "And?" I queried. "Do

you have any tattoos?" my friend asked. "No." "Then you have nothing to worry about," said my friend. "Take the job." And we set off for New Orleans two days later. Since he said he would be doing a lot of traveling, maybe even to Russia, where he

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Castro Attackers Plead Guilty, Face Jail Terms

Victim Mills Speaks Out on Teenage Fag-Bashers

by George Mendenhall

Three teenage boys described as "Hispanic boys from a good Catholic high school and good families" have pled "no lo contendre" (guilty) to the brutal November '82 Castro district attack on Russell Mills. They waived the right to a trial and told Superior Court Judge Daniel Hanlon that the decision was made without any coercion from other parties.

Appearing in Juvenile Court this week, the boys were relaxed and joked with one another before the hearing. All three wore white shirts and ties and were groomed with new haircuts and shiny black shoes. Charged as "children" (those under 18 years of age), each faces possible incarceration from 4 to 7 years in a California Youth Authority institution. Sentencing (called

"disposition" in Juvenile Court) will be on March 18.

Mills, who still has difficulty walking and will probably never have full use of his left wrist, expressed concern over what he believes is "our peculiar ideas about juveniles in Western civilization." He believes "we have extended childhood beyond what is biologically realistic. These boys should have been

charged as adults — and they would have been in other parts of the world."

Five teenagers were cruising late at night in a truck near 19th and Sanchez Streets on November 19. One of the boys shouted at Mills and his lover, David, who were walking, "What are you looking at?" They then at-

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Tennessee Williams 1911-1983

by George Mendenhall

In his *Memoirs* in the late 1970's, Tennessee Williams reflected on an earlier visit to Warner Brothers Studios. Jack Warner asked the young Southern boy with the famed author what his occupation was. The boy replied, "I sleep with Mr. Williams."

Increasingly in life, Thomas Lanier Williams (his full name) talked and wrote about his homosexuality. It had been a difficult life for him since his companion of 14 years, Frank Merlo, died of cancer in 1963. He once reflected, "After that, everything sort of fell apart."

Although financially comfortable, Williams had a fear of being penniless. He wrote plays until his death last week at age 71. He ironically died by choking on a small bottle cap, while some critics had predicted that the use of drugs and alcohol would be his undoing. His last "hit" Broadway play was in 1961 — *Night of the Iguana*. (In the same year he wrote a successful novel, *The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone*, which became a movie starring Vivien Leigh and Warren Beatty.)

Marlon Brando achieved stardom on Broadway when Tennessee cast the young man in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Later the film version was a huge success. Williams, however, was generally unhappy with Hollywood's treatment of his plays.

Filmgoers saw Williams' work in *The Glass Menagerie*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Rose Tattoo*, *Sweet Bird of Youth*, and *Period of Adjustment*. He would go to his own plays and laugh, telling friends, "My tragedies are funnier than my comedies. Some of those characters have to laugh. They've got to. Or they'll die."

Williams' candid wit won him respect and status among world-wide celebrities but he was not a "jet set" traveler. He preferred to travel around the country checking on the latest run of newly-written and often unsuccessful plays wherever they were being staged. He said he often expressed his own feelings in his plays through women's parts.

GREAT WIT

The playwright was asked once if he believed in the Ten Commandments. He replied, "Let's see; what are they? I don't

steal. I don't covet my neighbor's wife or his ass . . . maybe I should correct that. I don't bear false witness. Ha! I bear excessively true witness for most people." Williams urged that his plays were not about sex but "the power of violets cracking the rocks," people who trust "in the kindness of strangers."

Some biographers since Williams' death have emphasized that he was somewhat of a sordid person but he seemed to enjoy life in an expansive way. Friends say that he had a strange sense of humor. He swam frequently and enjoyed to gossip. More recently, he lent his name to a Gay Human Rights Campaign Fund solicitation effort. The writer said recently that there was a great deal being written about him lately "because people think I am going to die."

Williams remained bitter until his death toward his brother, Dakin. The brother had Tennessee committed briefly to an institution in 1969. Dakin has written an unauthorized biography of Tennessee that will be released in the Spring.

Critics often name the three great American playwrights — Eugene O'Neill, Arthur Miller, and Tennessee Williams. However, Williams maintained a sense of humor about his own importance.

Dan Sullivan, veteran *Los Angeles Times* critic, recently remembered a time in a Los Angeles restaurant when Williams scribbled his name on the check after dinner. The waiter asked, "Could you please print your name at the top so the girls in my office can read it?" Williams replied, "Tell them I am Tennessee Ernie Ford and I'll be up shortly to sing for them." ■

Armstrong vs. Gordon — All American Boys

Gay Task Force Still Nettles S.F. Archdiocese

Muzzle Attempts Fail to Silence Church Critics

by George Mendenhall

"Archdiocese Patches Its Rift with Gay Task Force" read the *S.F. Examiner* headline last week but that is far from being fact. Monsignor Peter Armstrong went to the press with his version of what the Commission on Social Justice had accomplished after a heated debate last week. In truth, although the commission had agreed to a continuing "dialogue" on all of its Gay/Lesbian Task Force's recommendations, Armstrong sought to limit future discussion.

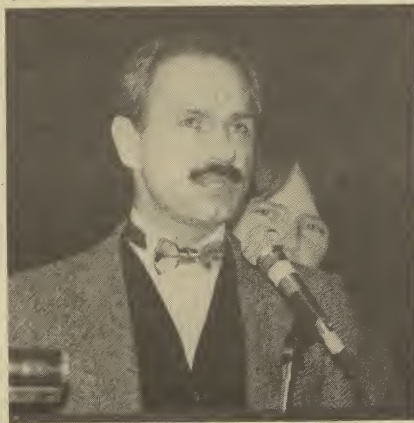
The task force completed a lengthy study and made 54 recommendations — many of them calling for extensive reform within the Catholic Church in relating to Gay people. It also called for a re-evaluation of that hardrock position of the church that homosexuals are acceptable as long as they remain celibate. The report asked that sex be put back into homoSEXuality.

To the mainstream press Armstrong, who now chairs the commission, called attention to only one guideline given to the task force in 1981 — "to develop a city-wide educational program against violent acts to anyone, regardless of their lifestyle." He said, "All we're saying is we want to get down to the basic problem, the violence committed against Gays. That's how this whole thing started, you know. That we've lost sight of. Let's get down to the practical points we can implement."

The task force, however, was also originally charged to implement the 1976 declaration of the United States Bishops. That group's statement was that "homosexuals, like everyone else, should not suffer from prejudice against their basic human rights. They have a right to respect, friendship, and justice. They should have an active role in the Christian community." Armstrong insisted, "When it comes to accepting the Gay lifestyle, that is something we can never do."

GORDON RESPONSES

Kevin Gordon, who chairs the controversial task force, told *Bay Area Reporter* last week that the



Gay chair of the Roman Catholic task force, Kevin Gordon. (Photo: Rink)

procedure for the last commission meeting was changed. He said that John Penebky, editor of the *Catholic Monitor*, was brought into the meeting as a parliamentarian. Strict Roberts Rules of Orders were enforced. Task force members, who had previously been permitted to informally participate in the commission's deliberations, complained that they were moved aside and only allowed to speak on occasion.

Penebky later editorialized in the *Monitor* that the task force "was now put in proper perspective." In a front page news article, Catholic readers were told in detail what the parliamentary controversy was about — a demand made at the earlier commission meeting by Gordon.

Although Gordon told the *S.F. Examiner* that he was "very encouraged" by the commission's statement asking for open dialogue, he, in reality, had told the commission at the conclusion of its meeting that he was outraged at what had transpired. He accused those in charge from the archdiocese of "trying to whittle away the work we have accomplished." He said, "They are showing ruthless disrespect for the commissioners. We are all being treated like dummies. It is travesty."

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The controversial 150-page task force report was released last December. It called for sexuality to be accepted by the church as a part of the human condition, for a positive educational program in Catholic schools that demystifies homosexuality, a halt to church attacks on the Lesbian/Gay lifestyle as being destructive to the traditional family, and for the archdiocese to openly work for legal and social justice for Lesbians and Gay men.

The task force copyrighted and then published its report last year. Over 3,000 copies have been sold. Reviews on the report have appeared in numerous publications — including *TIME* magazine. These measures were a brazen attempt by the task force to assure that its work would not be buried in an archdiocese filing cabinet. Last week the commission voted to rebuff an attempt by the archdiocese to end the copyright and obtain ownership of the document itself.

BAD FAITH

Gordon, a theologian and therapist, said that the "we want to open dialogue" statement by the commission is a positive step in the right direction. He added, "Well, at least they have given up trying to suspend us as a group. It will be a continuing effort to stop what some officials in the archdiocese are trying to do. There is a lot of bad faith. The commissioners are not sophisti-

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Arthur Lazere Joins the Feinstein Administration

by Kevin Styers

Two years ago he was making "DUMP DIANNE" buttons, protesting what he saw as "practically no communication between Mayor Feinstein and the broader Gay community."

This month, however, Arthur Lazere was appointed by Mayor Feinstein to fill the vacancy left by Herb Donaldson on the Industrial Development Authority. Lazere accepted the appointment eagerly.

Some of his political cronies have accused him of "selling out."

"I felt a lot of hostility the night the Milk Club voted to support the mayor's recall," Lazere said.

He is against the recall because "if you went through it every time you disagreed with a politician, you'd have political chaos."

"I can't tell people to go against what they feel in their hearts," he said. "[Feinstein] let them down on a number of Gay issues."

While Lazere called Feinstein's veto of the Live-In Lovers Bill "damned unfair," he still feels that "I must support her."

His appointment to the Industrial Development Authority, which raises money to finance and support city businesses by floating tax-exempt bonds, won't be Lazere's first involvement with the administration. He just spent a year on the mayor's Advisory Committee for Economic Development.

"This new appointment is sort of a promotion," he said.

Lazere replaces Herb Donaldson, who was appointed a Municipal Court judge by former governor Jerry Brown. Donaldson was sworn in this month. Lazere said the Authority "has no direct impact on the Gay community" except to those who weren't aware that such financing was available. "But I think it's important for Gays to have a part in the larger community," he said.

Born in Manhattan in 1940, Lazere came to San Francisco in 1976. He was "apolitical" in New York. "I felt I couldn't have an effect there — the government was too far from the people," he said. He taught college accounting in New York but switched to the business world

"I spearheaded the effort to bring GGBA out from a semi-closeted organization," Lazere said. "Before that, the word Gay hadn't appeared in GGBA literature." He acted as moderator of a panel composed of then-police chief Charles Gain and Gay businesses, to address the

Arthur Lazere gets on board in troubled times. The hostility engendered surprises him.

when he came to the City, because teaching jobs were scarce. He worked for an insurance company for a year, then started his own practice as a certified public accountant in 1977. It was then that he became involved with the Golden Gate Business Association, which more or less introduced him to political life.

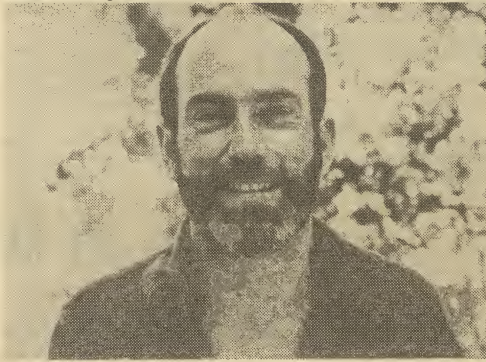
"I sought out the GGBA when I started my business," he said. "It was more of a social group, then, with about 150 members." In 1978 he was elected to the board of directors and later made treasurer.

As treasurer, Lazere proposed a budget that allowed the GGBA to open an office on O'Farrell Street, along with a secretary to do the administrative work. "It raised the GGBA to professional status," he said.

When he was elected president in 1979, he began meeting officers from other Gay organizations, and realized the GGBA "could be a considerable political force."

issue of police harassment of those businesses. "I started out [at GGBA] with a selfish motive," Lazere said. "But once I was thrust into the political scene, I realized I could have an effect."

He served two terms as president of the organization, and is



Accountant Arthur Lazere signs on Mayor's Industrial Development Authority.

still on the board of directors. "I suspect it will be my last year there," he said. "I've made my major contribution, and there are other strong people to take over. It's time for a new act."

John Schmidt, former president of the GGBA and a 10-year board member, doesn't agree with Lazere's statement about bringing the organization out of the closet. While Schmidt believes Lazere "is motivated by an interest in the Gay community," Schmidt feels "he should not take credit for [bringing the GGBA out]."

"Times had changed, things were out by the time Lazere came to California," Schmidt said. "The Board should all have the credit for bringing GGBA around."

Schmidt calls Lazere "unpolished — very New York," although he is quick to qualify it as not a pejorative observation.

"He has plenty of ego," Schmidt said. "He's not lacking in that."

Another colleague, who prefers to remain anonymous, said that Lazere is "very conscious of his public image," and that "his ambition shows like his slip is showing; he's forever hanking at it."

"That makes ambition sound like an error," Lazere said. "Ambition in a good cause is necessary if you want to accomplish good things. I won't apologize for that. And public image is im-

portant, too," he went on. "To maintain credibility with both the Gay and straight communities."

As to the charge of Lazere "selling out," he said: "Times have changed since those 'DUMP DIANNE' buttons. She and I still have important differences on specific issues, but rather than selling out, I feel it's an opportunity to be heard better."

Lazere insisted he "made no promises" when he took the appointment, but feels "one is expected to follow certain parameters of courtesy."

Hadley Rolf, the deputy mayor, said the reason for Lazere's appointment was his "good sound business judgment." "I didn't know about the 'DUMP DIANNE' buttons 'til I read it in Herb Caen," he said. "But I doubt if it would have made a difference. We don't apply this kind of a political litmus test to this kind of appointment."

Harry Britt and Roger Gross, current president of GGBA, both had equally glowing opinions of Lazere. Britt said Lazere worked with him as an advisor on South of Market development issues, and that "he is one of the best assets to protecting the South of Market scene."

"We owe a great deal to him for developing the GGBA into a national organization," Britt said. "He's the kind of person our community needs."

Roger Gross was more to the point. "When people talk about [Lazere's] ambitions, I say, 'I don't care, if it benefits the community.'"

"If it came down to community betterment or personal aims, he'd go for community betterment," Gross said.

As to his role in the future of the City, Lazere said he will use his appointment "to promote economic development that provides jobs for the hard-core, structurally unemployed."

This appointment and all of his past political roles — GGBA president, etc. — he said are "different expressions of my commitment, and I won't sell that out for anything." ■

Police Commission Moves Cautiously on OCC

Critics Say Progress Too Slow

The Police Commission held their last hearing on the implementation of Proposition A, the establishment of an Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC). The Commissioners revealed the Director's job description and the draft of the rules for the OCC, drawn with the help of the BAR association. They were met on the one hand with a favorable reaction to their documents and on the other with an emotional outpouring of frustrations and of fears. The fears were that the OCC was not being set up fast enough and that it might not accomplish its task, to stop injustice in the Police Department.

The weaknesses in the rules center on two issues. The first is the realization that the OCC is just a fact gathering process, and can only make recommendations to the Chief of Police (Article 5.3). The second is the problem of confidentiality of police officer files under state laws.

In his opening remarks, President of the Commissioners, Dr. David J. Sanchez, Jr., said, "I know there's been a great deal of anxiety that either we are moving too slow or too swiftly. The fact of the matter is this commission is very concerned about the entire [process] to insure the OCC is in fact a standard to be duplicated in other cities throughout the nation." The supplemental budget had been approved just two weeks ago by the Board of Supervisors. The commissioners were taking time to get public input, and would accept written input through March 4, an additional ten days from this hearing. After the hearing, Commissioner Jo Daly was asked if they were moving as fast as they could. She

replied immediately, "Yes, we are." She felt the Gay community was being insensitive to the problems inherent in setting up such an organization. She said the commission was hoping to find a well-qualified candidate for the Director upon whom they could all agree.

The deadline for applications for the Director is April 1. The commission hopes to choose the Director within three weeks of that date. Commissioner Jane M. Murphy said, "We do have to make an investigation of their past, their activities and so on. That takes about a month. The hiring of the Director is the most important thing."

Dana Van Gorder, aide to Supervisor Britt stated, "I've had an opportunity to look over the proposed rules and I am generally pleased with them." He emphasized the importance of making the rules readily available and in enough languages to deal with the many ethnic groups of the city. He felt it was important that the reports made by the OCC to the public contain the type of disciplinary

action taken. On the issue of confidentiality of police files, he said, "The state law in many ways works to the disadvantage of the complainant. Because the language of that state law is somewhat vague, the commission should take as liberal a view as possible in terms of accommodating a complainant through the process. The complainant must have some access to files to decide if an appeal is appropriate." Murphy wants a clarification of the law from the city attorney "right away," as there are so many questions in that area.

Catherine Cusic, a vocal member of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, reminded the commissioners that Proposition A was "a clear mandate from the voters of San Francisco. Professional police support this and the non-professional ones are worried." She saw a problem in that, "in the final analysis what happens to the disposition of these hearings is with the Chief of Police." Commissioner Murphy replied that the final disposition is with the Commis-

sioners. "A hearing can be appealed to the commission." She added that if more disciplinary action was necessary, the commissioners could act.

Randy Taylor spoke next. Taylor had gone through the police training program as an open Gay activist, and was third highest academically in his class. He was terminated by Chief Murphy. He could testify to the arbitrariness of investigations in the department, as the week after he was terminated, two officers in his class who had passed the training were brought up on criminal charges. "Good officers have nothing to fear from something like civilian review," he said. "They more than anyone else want the bad officers weeded out, the ones who give them all a bad name. Part of the problem is in the field training program. Misconduct is encouraged. So much emphasis is on aggressiveness. That's why women and minorities are discriminated against in the field training program." Unofficially, they were told at the academy that if you want to get points with the Field Officer, beat up a prisoner. An instructor (Taylor noted he could not prove this) once told him, "If you ever shot someone and there are no witnesses around, you better come in and finish them off. It's less paperwork." Taylor was faulted by his supervisors for not

having enough "SIA's, self-initiated acts." Common examples would be stopping people who were loitering. Taylor said, "I had no problem going after the people who were breaking the law. I found a problem going after people because of their race, their color, their economic situation, or the part of town they live in." Taylor's conclusion was the the OCC is needed badly and as soon as possible.

Roberto Hernandez also felt it was taking too long to set up the OCC. Hernandez was the victim of an alleged police attack and choke hold. The incident led to the removal of Captain Donald Taylor from the command of Mission District station. Hernandez is a leader of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation. "When the Chief or this commission or this mayor request more money for police or guns or cars, the city can pull together right away to get those guns." It was important to have the OCC available 24 hours a day. Hernandez said, "We have had the tactical squad lined up and literally marching in formation down Mission Street at 1 or 2 in the morning and people get scared. I've been scared for my life." He agreed with Taylor. "We feel there is too much aggression being taught in the

(Continued on page 14)

Asian Lesbians and Gays Celebrate Chinese New Year

by Konstantin Berlandt

Firecrackers popping like a war zone on the street, an occasional dragon sticking its head inside the bar, while upstairs Miss Chinatown and her court in their tiaras were having a pre-Parade dinner. In the neighboring banquet room of the Far East Restaurant Saturday evening at 631 Grant Avenue, some 150 attendees of the Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians (ALGA) second annual Chinese New Year's dinner were lining up to sign in and be pinned with red carnations.

Before the speeches were ended and dinner was served, the beauty queens in the other room had eaten and left. Laughed ALGA M.C. Stanley Ing, "We scared 'em off — too much competition."

Ing also apologized to the hungry audience, "Due to a shortage at Safeway, the minced squab and thousand layer buns have been substituted with Chicken McNuggets and Pillsbury frozen biscuits."

The dinner was everything that had been advertised, a nine-course Chinese banquet that ended with a toast by ALGA officers circulating to each table.

The theme of the evening: "Whatever your sexual persuasion, political belief or ethnic origin — live together in harmony in the year 4681," expressed ALGA officer Wilbur Lee about the Year of the Boar. Miss Piggy was the absent guest of honor.

ALGA General Secretary Bill

Matsumoto, before introducing featured speaker Municipal Judge Lillian Sing, also stressed "further strengthening our ties and understanding in San Francisco." Matsumoto pointed out that many local Gay Asians had not "moved to San Francisco from Middle America" but rather had other concerns such as immigration and family ties to deal with.

Sing, the nation's first Asian woman judge, sat alongside Mary Morgan at the banquet, the nation's first Lesbian judge. Both were appointed by ex-Governor Jerry Brown. Sing began by asserting, "Discrimination continues to exist against Asians and Lesbians and Gays in San Francisco," and added Gay and Lesbian Asians face discrimination within both communities. Fifteen years ago, she said, "it was not safe for a Chinese American to cross Broadway," and Gays were similarly threatened and restricted.



Chinese New Year welcomed in at Lesbian and Gay Asian dinner in Chinatown. (Photo: Rink)

But while there had been improvement — Bilingual Voters Act, affirmative action, reversal of official posture regarding Japanese American internment in World War II — recent talk during the hostage crisis suggesting throwing Iranians in America into concentration camps raised the question "How can we prevent something like this from happening again?" Sing urged minority and Gay coalition for greater strength in passing such measures as AB 1, the Gay rights bill now before the State Legislature.

Among those introduced from the audience were College Board members Julie Tang and Dr. Tim Wolfred, President of the Chinese American Democratic Club Louis Hop Lee, Asian Pacific Lesbians and Gays of Los Angeles General Secretary Stan-

ley Rebutan, Coalition for Human Rights and Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club President Randy Stallings, former Emperors Hector Caceres and (B.A.R. publisher) Bob Ross, Cable Car Humanitarian Award winner Ann Daley, and Lesbian/Gay Parade Co-Chairs Linda Boyd and Konstantin Berlandt with Parade Board President Barbara Cameron. Matsumoto is also on the Parade's Board of Directors.

Some 25 members of ALGA's Southland sister organization had come up for the event, including the Asian Pacific Lesbian and Gay Chorus, who sang Hawaiian, Taiwanese, Korean, and Thai songs, plus a Japanese worded version of "My Way" and their opener, "Bali Hai."

Gay on Bridge Board

(Continued from page 1)

nation of William Moskovitz. The Rules and Legislation Committee is made up of Supervisors Wendy Nelder, Chair; Louise Renne, Vice Chair; and Harry Britt.

Opening remarks were made by Supervisor Renne. "There has been a great deal of discussion about this position. It comes in the aftermath of a great deal of discussion when the last position for the bridge board was considered. That was a seat that had been represented by labor and this Board of Supervisors made a very concerted effort to see that it was filled by a representative from labor." Now she felt it was time another group in the city was represented. A number of the supervisors had had serious discussions with Ross, and she had received a lot of mail in support of his nomination.

Supervisor Silver was the first witness to speak. "I rise to support the choice of Bob Ross as the nominee to the Golden Gate Bridge Board. I endorse and agree with the things that Supervisor Renne has just stated. It's not so much a matter that any of the other people who sent their names in or who asked to be considered are not equally good people. However, I received over 100 letters in support of Bob Ross. I know that other members have received mail in his support. His candidacy stands on its own merits. Bob has been a public figure through his newspaper and through his support of charitable causes and human issues throughout the City of San Francisco for many years. He is a person who will serve well on the Golden Gate Bridge Board. He has the back-

ground and has the ability to do so and I think he represents an important constituency that is not now represented on that board. I urge my appointment by this body."

The next witness was Supervisor Molinari. "I'm here as well to urge the appointment of Mr. Bob Ross. As former president of the bridge board, I think his background as a businessman and a leader of his community will serve San Francisco well on that board. I think Mr. Ross would bring to the board a very definite and profound influence."

Two other witnesses spoke, Maurice H. Klebolt conceded his position to Ross; and Bob Buckley, a labor figure, spoke on his own behalf.

Nelder, who earlier said she had never met or seen Ross, asked, "I've been waiting for Mr. Ross. Is Mr. Ross here?"

Ross approached the microphone. "My name is Bob Ross and I am publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*. I have been involved in issues and active in the Gay community for 25 years. I'm treasurer of the Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation and have served two and one-half years on the Community Development Board."

As there were no more witnesses, Chair Nelder declared the hearing closed. "In all deference to Mr. Ross, who I'm sure is going to be the nominee, I maintain foremostly that I don't know Mr. Ross personally. However, I do know some of the other applicants personally and I'm going to dissent. It's [his] newspaper that said my father bought the election for me."

New State Bill for Gays

AB848: The Right to be Free from Violence

Citing the serious problem of reported incidents of violence against Gay individuals, Assemblyman Tom Bates (D-Oakland) last week introduced legislation which will help strengthen the legal ability of Gay people to protect themselves from violence. The bill, AB848, would add the words "sexual orientation" to that section of the Unruh Civil Rights Act which establishes the right to be free from violence, or from intimidation by threat of violence.

"It is inexcusable that a group of individuals should be regularly attacked on the basis of their sexual orientation," said Bates. "Our streets should be safe for everyone, yet Gay people in some areas have found themselves the object of systematic attack, harassment and intimidation, often with little protection or right of recourse. This bill will provide a usable right of legal recourse."

The Unruh Civil Rights Act provides for a civil cause of action against anyone who would deprive another person of their right to be free from violence and intimidation, on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, or position in a labor dispute. Adding "sexual orientation" to this section would give Gay individuals a cause of action for damages plus \$10,000, if they can show that violence was committed against them on the basis of their sexual orientation. It would also allow them to petition the courts for preventive relief from patterns of violence, threats of violence, and intimidation.

"The right to be free from violence is certainly a basic civil right, and must be the bottom line for any group of people in a civilized society," Bates said. "This bill achieves the precise purpose the act was originally designed for: to help stop violence and intimidation against people on the basis of association or background."

AB 848 will have its first hearing in Assembly Committee in late March or early April.

Everyone, including Nelder, laughed.

Said Supervisor Britt, "We should forgive him for that, because he does have a record second to none within the Gay community with many years of devotion to community causes. He has shown he can work with all kinds of people. This is an important chance for our community to have a representative who can show the people of Marin County and other people the quality of leadership that our community is able to provide. I think the appointment is long overdue. I also always fight to have labor properly represented on all the forums of our government. In this case it's Bob's turn. I know he will distinguish himself."

The motion to make Bob Ross the nominee was voted out as a committee report with Renne and Britt voting yes, and Nelder voting no.

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Wall Street Assays Mondale's Brush with Gay Rights

With Walter Mondale formally launching his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination have come a spate of analyses of his assets and deficits.



Walter Mondale — his near embrace of Gay rights — some see as a plus, some see as a liability. (Photo: Rink)

Last week Albert R. Hunt of the *Wall Street Journal's* Washington bureau looked at the former Vice President's courting special interest groups. Among the interest groups thus far identified are Gay rights.

However, some observers argue that playing the game this way is shortsighted. Horace Busby, a former Lyndon Johnson aide, believes this strategy might limit his flexibility and freedom to govern. He says Mondale is "identified with the type of 1970's interest-group liberalism that is in the process of dying."

The *WSJ* sees Mondale as succeeding in pleasing very powerful groups. The issues include Foreign Trade (Mondale is leaning toward protectionism — a priority of the United Auto Workers, "the most respected and politically potent union in the country"). On education, Mondale is seen as a stalwart in the ranks of the National Education Association.

On Israel he is a staunch supporter of the Begin government.

He criticizes human rights violations and sufferings around the world but never a word on the Lebanese massacres.

On Gay Rights the *WSJ* staffer has this to say:

Gay Rights: Last Sept. 29 Fritz Mondale was the featured speaker at a dinner of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a homosexual and Lesbian rights political action committee. The Mondale camp insisted this wasn't a political move but only reflected Mr. Mondale's longtime concern for human rights and equal justice.

Privately, though, some Mondale aides were able to cite figures on the growing numbers of homosexuals in the electorate and suggested they might be an important new fund-raising constituency. The former vice president plainly saw this appearance more as a retail pitch to an interest group than a wholesale appeal for broad public support. And he declined to be interviewed on a television show after the speech.

But these aren't the sorts of matters that a president can handle in retail fashion. The Democratic National Committee, to the chagrin of some of its leaders, recently added a new officially sanctioned party caucus — for Gays. It's not hard to imagine this caucus demanding that a certain percentage of presidential appointees be Gay, or perhaps calling for a new agency to represent the Gays' interests. Where would Mr. Mondale stand on those issues?

No doubt all of his positions, taken in isolation, are defensible. Fritz Mondale genuinely supports Israel, education, and jobs for American workers and he opposes discrimination on grounds of sexual preference. Further, most of the other major Democratic presidential hopefuls seem just as eager to please special-interest claims. The Republicans hardly are much better; they merely have different clients — the American Medical Association, defense contractors, or other big business interests.

Hunt concludes his assessment with suggestions that Mondale's approach is American politics as usual, yet he ends with a reservation. He writes:

Some Mondale supporters acknowledge the problem and say it has been debated inside the campaign organization, but that the former vice president really believes in the positions he has taken. But Alan Baron, editor of a political newsletter, the Baron Report, recently noted that party skeptics offer a different explanation: "They suggest he (Mondale) is following a very traditional political practice in America: Promise everything and offend no one until it is essential to do so . . . after you've taken office."

That approach may be very good politics for getting to the White House, but the candidate who wins that way may find it almost impossible to govern.

*P.S.'s Waddell New President for Other Ways

The Board of Directors of Other Ways, a member-run, nonprofit organization, unanimously elected restaurateur Tom Waddell President last week. Prior to his election, Mr. Waddell was a member of the Board, Head of the Fundraising Committee, and on the Membership Committee. Tom, who first moved to San Francisco in October 1972, has been an active member of Other Ways since May of 1982.

Waddell is President of Adinsandell, Inc., a company in the bar and restaurant business, whose holdings include the *P.S., Casa de Cristal, The Mint, and the Church Street Station eateries.

When asked about his plans and visions for Other Ways, he said that he is going to concentrate on the general areas of Communication and Coordination. This translates into a positive internal restructuring of Other Ways to increase efficiency within the overall organization and within each of the various committees.

Beneficial fallout from the restructuring includes, most significantly, the freeing of

Other Ways founder Bob Jerome from the day-to-day business of functioning as chief administrator.

Waddell, says a club press release, is the right man for the right job at just the right time. "In taking over administrative responsibilities, this self-described 'strong man,' who has an obvious flair for business (with only a slight touch of the workaholic), is deeply committed to 'making it happen' for Other Ways. Tom brings the right balance of conviction and business acumen that this rapidly expanding enterprise needs."

When asked for his personal response to his election, Waddell remarked, "I think I'm just expressing what the majority of members of Other Ways feel: Other Ways is an answer for those of us who are seeking a more meaningful definition of 'community.' I want to see that our social alternative continues to happen in the best way possible, for our members, for those Gay men who will be joining us, and for the Gay community as a whole. That is the direction in which I see my energies for the next months heading."

L.A. Gays Receive Police Response

"We're feeling very heartened," Los Angeles activist Ivy Bottini said this week, when that city's Police Commission responded to demands from a Lesbian/Gay Police Advisory Task Force. What they got — considering the demands — was very little.

The commission reiterated its policy that the police department should not discriminate in the hiring of Gay people. However, there was no order to Police Chief Daryl Gates that he recruit Gay people.

"Consideration will be given to advertising for officers in Gay-oriented publications and at Gay events," the commission wrote in its decision. However, Gates responded that he would just continue his "nondiscrimination" policy.

Earlier demands from the Gay task force included that a nondiscrimination policy be announced regularly at station roll-calls, that its members be allowed to give classes at the Police Academy, and that a Gay community liaison be situated in police area offices. These were all rejected by the commission.

Decades of police harassment of Gay people in Los Angeles had resulted in numerous lawsuits and demonstrations.

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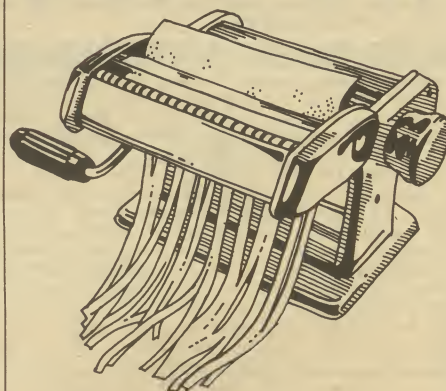


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VOL. XIII NO. 9 MARCH 3, 1983

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Playing for Our Safekeeping

In keeping with the sentiment of last week's editorial — a slanted peek at another city department that affects our lives — let us bide a wee at the District Attorney's office.

Traditionally — and not without cause — Gays have looked upon prosecutors as but an extension of the long arm of the law. Their function was to get people put away. They were but cops in sharkskin suits. Once upon a time a junior slot — for a few years — as an assistant DA was an early, honorable stepping stone on the way to a brilliant legal career. Since the 60's the reverse has been true — young lawyers with commitment wanted to defend — not attack. Unless it were attacking the system.

In San Francisco our memories are even more bitter as we witnessed the reverse tie-up with the old-boy network in the inept prosecution of Harvey Milk's murderer, Dan White. For that and other high insults against society District Attorney Joe Freitas was driven from office.

Arlo Smith promised in campaigning for the office that he would bring Gay and Lesbian attorneys, investigators, and clerical staff into his administration. Upfront Gays — not closeted spooks. The charge upon him was easier promised than delivered.

The first obstacle was that there was no flood of applicants. Young Gay attorneys carrying the distaste for the establishment were not easily inclined. To ride herd on the situation a group of Gay and Lesbian attorneys formed an unofficial ad hoc committee. Headed up by Duke Armstrong and Alan French, they met not infrequently with Arlo Smith. The paper ran public service ads. The committee pre-screened attorneys who expressed some interest — keep in mind there was no avalanche of applicants. More importantly, they didn't want Arlo to forget his pledge.

Recently the fifth upfront Gay prosecutor has been hired, Warren Alcock. His colleagues are Bref, French, Chuck Haines, and Jarrell McCrary.

Ken Cady, the first and foremost of the Gay attorneys, had taken crimes of violence against Gays as his particular preserve. Relentlessly he has pursued the fag-bashers — anyone who wields a fist, a lead pipe, a baseball bat, a hunting knife, a tire iron against a Gay man or woman walking the streets of San Francisco. And someday soon — if it already hasn't happened — the word will dribble down to the juvenile thugs — that to lay a hand on a Gay person for kicks is both a dangerous and expensive risk. The next step for Cady would be to head up a team of prosecutors to deal with those charged with street crimes of violence. If not bring his particular brand of expertise to the state level.

We know of three Gay investigators who are part of the Smith administration. Chief among them in exposure is Ron Huberman (current VP of the Milk Democrats). Huberman has been a great asset both to the Gay community and the prosecutors to whom he reports.

Through Ron we are able to get the facts (thinking in the terms that an editor's office is a tornado spout of rumors, half-truths, and misinformation). Conversely, Ron has been of invaluable assistance to the legitimate needs of his colleagues. In the search for victims, finding witnesses, alerting the community to wanted suspects, Ron Huberman has implemented a new era of cooperation between the Gay community and the investigative wings of law enforcement.

We recently learned that the mayor has allocated funds for five new positions in the District Attorney's office. The target for the new group of attorneys and investigators will be the prosecution of perpetrators of violence. Street violence against Gays and Lesbians goes on, and two things will stop it. One, that the citizenry will not abide it, and two, the law (police and prosecutors) will diligently work to punish the muggers and bashers.

(Continued on next page)

Nailing Cats to Walls

★ Goodness me. So, it "seems if we followed (my) aesthetics to their logical limits we'd still be housed in well-patched mud huts." Really? I should think that to anyone who has actually read my earlier letter it is obvious that I ridicule the proposed new Atlas Savings Castro branch precisely because it is the current equivalent of the mud hut: i.e., the sort of fast-food-franchise, disposable architecture that is thrown up overnight in vacant lots all over America — you know, pasteboard junk that slides down Marin hillsides every time it rains. The building is just one more in a long line of insults by a rich, White, and male business community against a no longer obedient consumer population that increasingly and justifiably looks for value-for-dollar in Italian leather goods and Japanese automobiles.

As for the amusing insinuation that my "resentment with Atlas S&L is otherwise based and this decor debate is but a smokescreen," I can only say that since you have absolutely no knowledge of myself or my motivations you resort to this childishly transparent condescension because you have no cogent rebuttal based on a knowledge of issues. This is called attitude.

Furthermore, this is not a "decor" debate, it is an art debate. Art. I realize that forces of reaction have from the beginning of time attempted to annul the power of art by trivializing it, by turning it into "decor," which can be bought and sold and treated like any other disposable commodity. It is an attitude rampant throughout our culture today. You can nail a dead cat to a wall and call it art if you're rich enough and wish to be mistaken for an intellectual. The proposed Atlas building, which is a product of a blatantly reactionary aesthetic based on a nostalgia for pre-modern social values, is redolent of every social process that is turning this nation into a second-rate economy and a third-rate culture, and I simply do not believe it has any place in the one community in America that might still be expected to uphold the standards of artistic accomplishment that will always be the true measure of a civilized society.

Larry Trend
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: To read you is to know you. In one way you have bested me. Your standards elude my comprehension.

P. Lorch

Cruising and Basking

★ Thank you for printing your Golden Gate Park Alert in the 2/17/83 issue. You have served notice to us that once again the "man" we pay to prevent crimes and stop criminals has nothing better to do than cruise restrooms and bushes in plain clothes, searching and sneaking up on people to arrest them for victimless crimes (crimes indeed!). After all, I haven't heard of anyone balling in the meadow or doing it in the road in the park. Why are we so powerless against the police to make them stop this harassment of innocent people? Isn't it time we took a stand and stopped this nonsense once and for all?

As for the teenagers' unprovoked attack on Russell Mills, I am in favor of giving them the same type of beating they gave him. An "eye for an eye" would be the only just solution to cases like this in my opinion. They like beating so much, let them see what it feels like.

I am curious if Mr. Mills is in need of financial aid or has a fund for the medical expenses, legal fees, and time off work caused by those brutal punks. Can he sue them for damages?

The B.A.R. is a must — thanks again for all your good work.

J.T. Smith

Grease...

★ I did so enjoy the article in the 2/17/83 issue entitled "Albolene, Lubricous Elixir of Love."

Particularly appropriate and amusing was the reference to the Greek language meaning of the word Diapason...

I know that the right lubricant will go a long way toward achieving ecstatic heights in sex, and let's hope that we all will be using Albolene from now on.

Richard Ditewig
San Francisco

CUAV Board

★ There are presently several openings on the Board of Directors of CUAV. In filling these openings the primary consideration will be to find people who are aware of the community's problems and are committed to the solution of those problems. We would be pleased to meet anyone who is sincerely interested in contributing time to help make the decisions that will guide CUAV in the future. Those individuals should send a brief resume to the attention of either of the undersigned people, c/o CUAV, P.O. Box 14017, San Francisco, CA 94114. All resumes received will be given fair and equal consideration at the regular March meeting of the Board of Directors. We are requesting that all resumes be in our office no later than March 7, 1983.

We, the members of the CUAV Board of Directors, look forward to a successful new year. We sincerely hope that your input will shape a part of our future.

Barry Cardoza
Gael Sapiro
San Francisco

Rejected Projectionist

★ It is with much sadness and anger that I tell you that as the Projectionist at the Castro Theatre I was "bumped" from my job on February 6 and am no longer at the Castro Theatre.

I was at the Castro for three years, working all the shows five days a week, upgrading the projection quality, supervising the live shows, and basically busting my buns to insure you got the best shows in the world.

Now I am gone, and on unemployment because a straight White male from out of town, but from my union, took my job.

He was able to take my job because he has more years in the union (Moving Picture Machine Operators Local 162, S.F.) and that is all.

The management of the Castro Theatre did everything in their power to prevent this, but the man who took my job threatened to sue them, and they had no legal recourse but to allow him to take my job.

If you have any complaints regarding the projection quality at the Castro Theatre, please voice your complaints to the union.

I am currently in L.A. being taken care of by friends, and am filing complaints with the National Labor Relations Committee, the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, and am seeking a Labor Law Lawyer to file suit against my local.

Birdie Breeze
San Francisco

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★ Our initial consumer advertising stated: "Come September we're going to make a little history... together."

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A. Charles, President
New York, NY

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LETTERS

Castro Then and Now



(Photo: Rink)

★ I want to commend Mike Hippler for an excellent article, "From Eureka Valley to the Castro." Writing a contemporary history is an enormous challenge and one can be sure from the outset that whatever is written will not satisfy all of the various recollections of how it really was.

I would like to make a few brief clarifications. Certainly, not everyone went to Catholic grammar school. Douglas and Sanchez public schools were also filled to capacity with local children, and both are still operating today (although a significant number of students are bussed in).

Although the area was never a ghetto, it has gone through considerable economic changes. Think of how good business must have been to warrant building the "new" Castro Theater in 1922, only a few years after having built the first one (the building now occupied by Cliff's). At one time, there was enough money to build all of the houses and stores in the area. At another time, people couldn't afford to paint them!

One serious correction needs to be made. Hippler implies that our Halloween street party sort of faded away. In fact, it went out with a bang, not a whimper.

For several years, the local gay community accommodated the children's party, not just passively, but constructively. Some gay-owned businesses contributed prizes, the bars arranged for the chartered buses full of drags to arrive after the party was over, and one year the Angels of Light put on a show for the kids (everything was "G" rated and in good taste). In 1979, because of a long history of violent Halloween on Polk Street, the Board of Supervisors decided not to close Polk Street.

Newspapers, radio, and TV gave a lot of coverage to the fact that Castro was the only street being closed for Halloween. They speculated long and often about the ominous potential for violence. It was made quite clear that if you wanted to kick ass on Halloween, you should go to Castro.

That night there were an estimated 20,000 people on the street. It looked like the Street Fair in the dark! Many were spectators, many were punks, straight punks, gay punks, amateurs, professionals, some even came from out of town. Pockets were picked, people were mugged and beaten, and windows were broken. It was obvious that the media had discovered something good and wholesome on Castro and felt morally compelled to destroy it, as it didn't fit with their image of the place.

There are still a fair number of children in the area. You don't see them on Castro because there is very little here for them. Many parents are reluctant to let their children come here. Most of the parents who live in this neighborhood are far from homophobic. We wouldn't be here if we were. Still, it is very difficult for many to accept much of the public behavior one encounters on Castro. Even accepting the fact that a percentage of our children will grow up homosexuals, we can't point to the exploitation, alcoholism, drug abuse, and desperate hedonism which one finds here as an example of a healthy gay lifestyle to emulate.

The caption under the picture of the Jaguar Book Store is misplaced. Hibernia Beach "represents the New-Gay Castro in all its color and rawness." On the contrary, Ron Ernst has been a model of discretion and shown consideration for the entire neighborhood. His establishment provides the privacy which the activities deserve.

Finally, Mr. Hippler is simply mistaken when he says that I have been here less than five years. I grew up in this business and have owned it outright for ten years. He is not mistaken, however, in his message: the Castro or Eureka Valley is a neighborhood with a wonderfully diverse population.

Ernest L. Astén
San Francisco

Detour the Detour

★ We are writing this letter in protest of an incident that happened the night of Tuesday, February 9 (a quiet week night). We were outraged and amazed that this situation still went on, especially in San Francisco.

First of all, we (a group of friends) decided to get together and go out bar-hopping. We were three Gay males and one Gay female. We decided to go to the Castro area.

We started out at a favorite bar. Everything was fine. We then went to another bar, which was also fine. We then proceeded to a third bar, which was altogether not fine.

Our third stop was the Detour. We three Gay males have been in the Detour quite a few times and were outraged at what took place there.

We walked to the door and the bouncer immediately asked for ID, which surprised us. He then asked our female friend for three pictured ID's and a birth certificate. A birth certificate? Give us a break. She had a California Driver's License, which had a picture and her birth date on it. She was dressed the same as us males so they couldn't say a dress code. On top of this, the bouncer was very rude. They wouldn't let her in. They lost four customers that night.

Whatever happened to unity in the Gay community? We thought Gay men and Gay women were working together on fighting for their (our) rights. This tactic, we consider of small town mentality. Gay men who have Gay female friends should think about this issue. If businesses, such as the Detour, won't let us have a good time with our fellow Gay people, then we will take our business elsewhere, where they won't discriminate.

Philip E. Stover
Lopaka Kihapilani
Jerry Kohlhof
San Francisco

Atlas Site

★ In reference to the letter by Mr. Larry Trend (B.A.R., 17 Feb 1983) regarding Atlas Savings and Loan.

Aside from being a happy Atlas customer, and wishing to supply some information to the community at large, I have no other interest.

Mr. Trend, you might consider getting your facts, dare I say "Straight," the next time you write a letter, any letter.

1. The building you refer to situated at Duboce and Market Streets is, in fact, owned by the U.C. Construction Company. Atlas Savings and Loan is only one of many tenants.

2. The "desecration" (your word) was carried out by others long before Atlas came down the pike. The former mortuary sat boarded up and vacant for several years. At one point it was rumored "We were going to deserve a break today" on that corner. The exterior renovation, painting, windows, etcetera, was carried out by others, not Atlas.

3. You might do well to purchase a dictionary and look up the definition of (again your word) cheesy. As for "Pseudo-high Tech," I suppose you are entitled to your opinion. Be that as it may, this is 1983; plastics are in; period rooms are out. As I said, however, Atlas had nothing to do with the removal of prior ornamentation.

Enter the Eureka Super Market! What the hell is so witty about orange tile, a sagging building, and an awning that hasn't been replaced in years? To say nothing of the ugly, unsanitary, and quite possibly illegal fruit (pardon me) and vegi stands blocking half of the sidewalk. When did you last take a long look at this building?

As for the tenants and/or the building owner. What sort of civic pride and responsibility do you see showing by the above conditions? The tenant has operated on a month to month basis for some two years. A prudent businessman simply doesn't do things of this sort.

As for the proposed new Atlas building, sorry, Rink, your photo doesn't do the design justice. Atlas representatives and architects made appearances before the Eureka Valley Merchants Association planning committee and on two separate occasions appeared before general membership meetings of the Eureka Valley Promotion Association. They were responsive to suggested changes by both groups. As a result, Atlas received the support of both groups.

Mr. Trend, speaking of shopping centers, please take a look at the facade of Crown Books and Fotomat. I don't take issue to the services these firms provide, but their facade, "grody to the max."

The structural soundness of a building is an area of criteria studied by the DPW when issuing permits. This criterion is dictated by the city building code, not the building owner or tenant. Again, this is 1983 in Earthquake Country.

I, for one, am tired of after the fact, in your case little fact, criticism by persons not willing to work within the system, who have a one-issue mind, and who don't take the time and effort to attend community meetings.

Mr. Trend, I encourage you to indeed get involved, but above all, grow up!

Robert N. Hunter
San Francisco

A Step Forward

★ I am writing to let any and all gay men and women who are tired of being lonely and wanting to start a caring non-threatening group simply called "friends".

The purpose? To provide an alternative to bars and enable anyone to make friends that we all need. This will not be a "support group", but we will hopefully support each other and know that caring, loving relationships of all types can exist.

I personally know of many people who would like to know others on many different levels, not just sexual. If anyone is interested, and wants more out of this lifestyle than just sex and drugs, then hopefully we can and will provide a family in the fullest sense of the word. We can change the world!

If you are intrigued and interested enough in this, write to me at the address below. I do care.

Todd Balderson
c/o 50 Laguna #210
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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

The Board of Supervisors has yet to vote on the appropriation, and we expect them to approve. Our part of the concern is to urge young Gay attorneys and investigators to go after the jobs.

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Paul Lorch



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LETTERS

Mexico City Writes

* Perhaps your readers would find it interesting to know that there is life on other Gay planets and they do read B.A.R. to keep in touch with Gay-Realities.

I'm a San Francisco resident living in Mexico City these past six months. I met my Latin lover in San Francisco three years ago and have lived happily-ever-after. Gay life in Mexico is rather enchanted, offering up fantasy after fantasy every place you go... more Gay people should come and visit!

A regular connection supplies me and my Gay friends here with your periodical, and it's always like reading a long, wonder-filled letter from home.

Thus, I am writing to comment as a distant, but familiar, observer of my "neighborhood-family" that I am kin to, and using your paper as my window I can look out into the yard, and this is what I see:

It seems the neighborhood is getting such a facelift these days its eyes are pulled back into dollar signs. The "new money" people see is not "Gay," it's just *Green*... go look it up in your Atlas, now located in a Castro supermarket!

And where there is *Money*, there is the whiff of a cigar and the smile of a politician. From the Presidential hopefuls right to the "Big-Timers" in the local Gay political circuit; the ones anxious to flex lip-muscle and have their picture taken by Rink. From here it looks insane to support Feinstein's recall when she's only six months away from losing the office anyway. Let's dump on her then!

And I must mention your story on how the employees at Munchkin's took over the business when the two rats owning the place skipped town... Hurrah! Also, the article about the two "local boys" who were busted in Las Vegas for having too much "class," by gambling in drag that they could have fun in a free world... now that's the kind of personal politics I like!

My friends in Mexico listen and read with interest about our Gay "Land of Oz," Mr. Editor, but most are convinced it's not a paradise to live in. They say, "Sure, you have an excessive number of places Gay people can play and 'get off'... but look at how complicated your Gay world has become, how dangerous." They point out that in Mexico City there are over 1,000,000 Gay folks out of a population of 17,000,000... and even with only a handful of "openly Gay" nightspots, there is a "freedom to love" in the cultural sense ingrained into the people and expressed by them openly, which reflects the philosophy here that Gay men and Lesbians are free *anywhere* as long as they share a love for other people and themselves. Mexico may have suppression in legal terms, and religious, moral, and closeted hatred for homosexuality, but the unity and love among Gays here persists and grows and has little to envy San Francisco for.

I thank you for your interesting reporting, witnessing, informing, and the entertainment in reading you so far away. What is so valuable and important is when Gay media-windows become accessible for those of us so far away from "the" viewpoint. We read many difficult images into what progress is being made, but when we read about men and women who love their brother and protect their sister, who volunteer whole careers into promoting Gay health or legal services, who produce fine newspapers for the community to become more informed with... well, this is just my time to say thanks that the Reality of "Gay consciousness" perseveres and unites us and carries on, despite the political and moral divisiveness which sometimes threatens to harm the cause of civil freedom for us all.

Jerry Van Moore
San Francisco &
Mexico City, Mexico

Club Flubs

* Congratulations to the talking-heads who lead the HMGay and Stonewall Democratic Clubs for taking a position on the Mayor's recall. How refreshing it is to note that people still are free enough to make donkeys out of themselves.

The issue of the recall is gun control. The Mayor has been defeated and embarrassed by the courts on this issue. Obviously, the men who are the "Communist White Panther Party", and those who also control the left-leaning Democratic clubs, aren't content with the Mayor's public humiliation by the courts. They want more! By abusing the recall process, they are figuratively raping the Mayor for her well-intentioned exercise of poor judgment.

Our speaking persons are not to be believed! This is the same gang who:

1. refused to endorse Gay candidates for election to the Board of Supervisors.
2. refused to endorse the re-election of Dick Hongisto to the Board of Supervisors.
3. ridiculed the candidacy of Sister Boom Boom.
4. lost a "Gay" seat on the Community College Board of Trustees by splitting the community's vote.
5. lost what little influence we could have had in the Office of the President of the Board of Supervisors.
6. substituted the blitzkrieg of personal power for established due process both at the State Democratic Gay/Lesbian Caucus, and at the time of selecting HMGay's president.

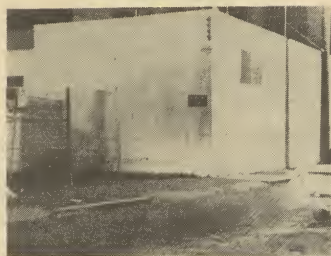
7. destroys San Francisco through confrontation tactics rather than building the City by constructive participation in both community and city-wide processes.

If anyone is to be recalled, it is these air-heads, not the Mayor.

Thanks!

Diane Kovacs
San Francisco

Ringold Anger



(Photo: Rink)

* While much attention is currently being focused on the recall campaign against Mayor Di, perhaps the Gay community should re-evaluate its support of other city officials who masquerade as our friends at election time, and having gotten our votes, proceed to forget us. I refer specifically to District Attorney Arlo Smith.

Last Monday I joined the growing ranks of those arrested in Ringold Alley. I was charged with public intoxication and public lewdness. As my case has yet to go to court, I won't go into details, except to say, in Paul Simon's words, "I would not be convicted by a jury of my peers."

At a time when so many people are concerned about violent crime such as rape, assault, murder, and so on, why does the S.F. Police Department find it expedient to cruise Ringold Alley? More importantly, with so much more serious crime going on, why does our "friend" the District Attorney put up with this nonsense? Don't the police have better things to do? Doesn't the District Attorney's office have better things to do? If the District Attorney refused to take these cases and made it clear that gay men doing in Ringold Alley (not all that public a place at 2:30a.m.) what straights do in their "lovers' lanes" was no longer a proper police concern, they might start devoting their efforts to deterring real crime. How about solving a few murders, or robberies, or, for a real change, catching a few fag-bashers?

Do we really need a "friend" like Arlo Smith? What has he done for us lately? I say we need a District Attorney more attuned to the needs of all San Franciscans — not just the morally upright, who, incidentally, are just as likely to be mugged as anyone else. How does the District Attorney think they would feel knowing that their mugger got away because the nearest cops were too busy arresting someone for "public" sex? I think it is time we seriously considered replacing our dear old "friend" Arlo.

Michael Clendenien
San Francisco

P.S. All of you out there who've applied to be cops, be advised, until they found out I was a "Q-2 Applicant", the cops were going to be "nice guys" and were only going to charge me with public intoxication. When the report came back that my record was clear and that I'd applied to be a cop, they got a little upset, and in the best of homophobic traditions, decided to try and make sure this was one queer who wouldn't end up on the force.

ED. NOTE: The police cruise the alley — as far as we know — because the people who live along the street complain and demand the police take action.

Arlo Smith has nothing to do with whom the police arrest. What he does with your case remains to be seen. It's up to you as well to decide what to do in your case. You are still an innocent man.

P. Lorch

Better Than by Mail

To the Grand Wizard of Poo-Poo Holes:

My lover and I are intent on offering you our humble thanks for your wise pieces of juicy advice on the appropriate methods of cleaning up before getting down. In fact, I myself wish to proffer my own personal thanks face to face — but, since you've changed your number, that's impossible. Over the past ten years, oh, thou great Grand Wizard, I have learned much from you. We have had our ups and downs, our tops and bottoms, and managed, somehow to get through them. But, listen, Oh, Great Wizard — you may know the messy ways of keeping, clean before sex, but you don't know how to behave in someone else's home!

By issuing pious commands to others where it is none of your business, you level more than one impropriety at a friend. I have had to go to huge expense for your pranks.

You are like the brother I never had, but all you've got to do is apologize for your behavior and all will be forgiven and forgotten.

Larry Hays
San Francisco

P.S. For you queens in Sausalito: Please heed the advice of the Grand Wizard about douching before anal intercourse. Note: The text of this letter was prepared by Tom Giering.

Pro Bono

* Would like to say thank you for being in our City and thank you for hiring writers who really care. My inspiration in sending you this note is two recent articles written by Steve Warren and Duke J. Armstrong.

Carmella Milo

LETTERS

Bar Sounds

★ Am I the only person out here who is of the opinion that Gay, public, indoor, social gathering places (i.e. bars) are frightened, economically, to disturb the "status quo" by insisting that we need *loud* music in their establishments? Must we continually force our conversations, far above our natural speaking voice, and develop what anthropologists will call the "talking-to-the-ear" syndrome?

As the "disco-drug" scene was instrumental in breeding, and, in this writer's opinion, still breeding a generation of "escapists" hell bent on "checking-out" rather than developing more interpersonal contacts through verbal interaction, I ask why it must carry over into our other popular gather holes ("holes" — metaphorically) where escape may be a part of it, but where "escape" drugs are rarer and dancing is neither encouraged nor permitted? I'm not even going to pontificate on the detrimental effects on our hearing. Granted there are bars where the volume is at a sensible level (and "bravo" to those who understand and sympathize with the problem), but I'm sure most will agree that they are in the minority. Most "hot bars" (those which generally overcrowd, poorly ventilate and dimly light) perpetuate the "disco" myth that we will get to know each other through osmosis. Well, we won't!

Lowering the volume may not make everyone a chatty Cathy, but it could help the shy person be more receptive to someone who finds it easier to initiate a conversation. It could reduce the inane, laconic introductory remarks we're forced to yell at each other. We might discover a new-found acquaintance to be rather beautiful internally rather than just a mass of flesh unable to present himself properly under such a situation. Lowering the volume would remove yet another "wall" separating us.

Some might say, "Get the hell out if you can't stand the music". . . join a sports team if you don't like indoor games." Or just "Stay home!" These, and other alternatives are surely available, but when you want to b.s. with friends or strike-up a conversation with a new acquaintance over a few drinks, the problem rears its nasty head. Notice the blank faces next time you're in one of these places. I don't have to mention names, they're all around the city. How ready and willing more of us would be if that "audio-wall" could be reduced around us.

H. Roy Gohl

ED. NOTE: One wit has put it this way:

The principle behind many bars is that they are not places to get to know people (and leave with them). The idea is keep them hopeful, keep them buying drinks. The music is just one more people-keep-apart.

Notices

★ Our local papers do something for straight couples I think it would be nice if you did the same for Gays. They print photos and announcements of newly weds as well as of major wedding anniversaries. Is there anything your paper could do along those lines.

Greg Allen
Guerneville, CA

ED. NOTE: And well we would were they so supplied. A list of separations might need more space though.

P. Lorch

Damn Trolleys



(Photo: Rink)

★ I live in the Castro area and am very alarmed at the ill-conceived proposal to bring hordes of summer tourists into our neighborhood via an antique trolley line terminating at Castro & Market.

There is nothing of legitimate interest in the Castro to any non-gay person, and especially nothing of legitimate interest to any tourist. The sole "attraction" of our neighborhood to tourists would be to "gawk at the fairies", and I do not like to be gawked at.

I live, shop, and party in the Castro and I feel my privacy and sense of neighborhood well-being would be grossly invaded by turning the Castro into a Fishermen's Wharf with potentially homophobic overtones.

The persons who conceived this project obviously have no sensitivity whatever to those of us who call the Castro our home. I feel no less insulted than if the proposal had been to put a representative groups of fags

in cages at Fifth and Market for the tourists to stare at. That is exactly what this project is designed to accomplish, is it not?

I am not surprised that the Eureka Valley Promotional Association, a collection of merchants, voted 22 to 2 to support the trolley scheme. Merchants are well known for placing monetary greed above any other consideration, and no doubt these merchants — including gay ones — have visions of dollar bills dancing in their heads. But what about the wholly negative impact this project will have on the ordinary residents of the Castro?

I am especially angry that I was not made aware of any public hearings or other means by which community sentiment could be made known. The B.A.R. (which for reasons that are totally incomprehensible to me seems to support this harmful scheme) at the least owes the community a duty to publicize, well in advance, each and every forum at which community sentiment from persons other than merchants can be aired.

Dennis Kruszynski
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: If we were supporting the scheme, we would have said so. If we were opposed to the idea we would have said so in no uncertain terms. To date we didn't think that lending our weight to one side or the other was called for or urgent. What profits an irate reader to set us up as one of the bad guys? — save the satisfaction of killing the messenger.

We would welcome any volunteer labor preparing lists well in advance of each and every forum at which community sentiment can be aired. What room would be left for anything else. Duty would be served but we and everyone else would be bored silly. Give us a break.

P. Lorch

Cut Rate KY

★ Though a conservative-Republican (hence an advocate and defender of laissez-faire) I am nevertheless infuriated by the implications of the quote attributed to Walgreen's area manager in discussing the chain's take-over of the Star Pharmacy (B.A.R. 24 Feb. 83, page 1).

"We go where people have cash . . . we believe our Castro store will be our Number One area store in sales," is the statement of Gaylord Helm, as reported by George Mendenhall, who is usually factually accurate (however politically erroneous).

Obviously, within his own context, the Walgreen's "front man" views us as just a bunch of faggots with money to spend for: KY; A-200; Preparation H; prescriptions for Herpes, Clap and Syph; and other incumbrances inherent in our exploitative lifestyle.

Is community consciousness, as well as responsibility truly that dead? It appears that our myopic deathwish to "ghettoize" ourselves has finally come home to roost and is now being taken advantage of by tourist and entrepreneur alike.

Thomas M. Edwards
San Francisco

Don't Smear NAMBLA

★ As a frequent reader of your fine newspaper, I feel compelled to respond to some recent comments by your "Politics & Poker" columnist, Mr. Wayne Friday, regarding an appearance of a North American Man/Boy Love Association spokesman on "A.M. San Francisco." Although I did not see the program that so upset Mr. Friday, and am not myself a member of NAMBLA, I did listen to a recent David Lamble show on KGO-FM, in which a NAMBLA spokesman was the featured guest. In my opinion, he presented a very thoughtful, intelligent and reasonable analysis of the issue of inter-generational sex, and the unjustness of the "age of consent" laws, which have been used to prosecute and imprison for many years, Gay men who happen to have sexual and affectional preferences for adolescent males. Mr. Friday's reference to NAMBLA members as "those creeps" was, in my opinion, an incredibly cheap shot, and his statement that "they're the ones who advocate having sex with kids" is a misleading and unfair interpretation of their position. The position of NAMBLA, as I understand it is to work to remove all criminal penalties against men and boys who are involved in mutual, consensual sexual relationships. They are *not* advocating that adult men go around trying to seduce unwilling, innocent young children into one-sided sexual relationships.

Rather than being condemned, I believe NAMBLA should be commended for having the courage to work to bring about an end to this senseless and barbaric persecution, particularly in light of the recent FBI arrests of NAMBLA members in the East. One of the persons arrested in a recent Massachusetts raid was a 17-year-old young man who is currently being held on \$50,000 bail for having committed the horrible "crime" of having sex with a 16-year-old youth. I believe the Gay community should be very supportive of NAMBLA's goal, which is to bring about legislative changes that would bring an end to such travesties of justice.

John Cooper
San Francisco

Bi in '83

★ In an effort to continue to expand the horizons in our community, acknowledgement of the Bisexual lifestyle is in order. Perhaps when preparing our parade it should read Gay, Bi and Lesbian parade. Please advise!

Doctor Rodger
San Francisco

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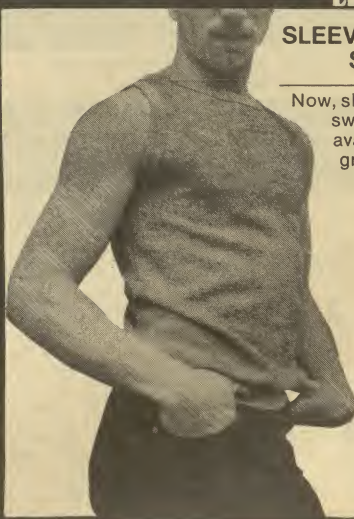
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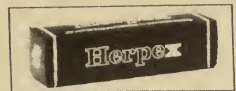
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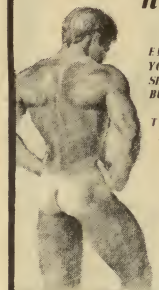
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Castro Attackers Plead Guilty, Face Jail Terms

(Continued from page 1)

tacked. One boy swung a cane, repeatedly striking Mills across his head, arm and legs. David escaped after being badly bruised to call for help. The incident was over in two minutes, but the damage was done. Mills was hospitalized for two weeks. He recovered at home while on crutches for a two-months period, attempting to move about while in two body casts.

The three boys charged and two others were identified by Mills and his lover in a police line-up. Earlier the victims had been able to give the police the automobile license plate number which resulted in the round-up of the suspects. One youth is to be charged later and a fifth will be released, as he was not directly involved in the attack.

aware that the boys had "confessed" earlier to arresting officer Armand Gordon. Outside the chambers, Mills and his lover waited in an office.

YOUTHS OR ADULTS?

"Youth might be more responsible," Mills said after the hearing, "if they were not treated as children. Certainly at age 13 or 14 a person should become fully a legal adult. People must be held fully accountable for their acts."

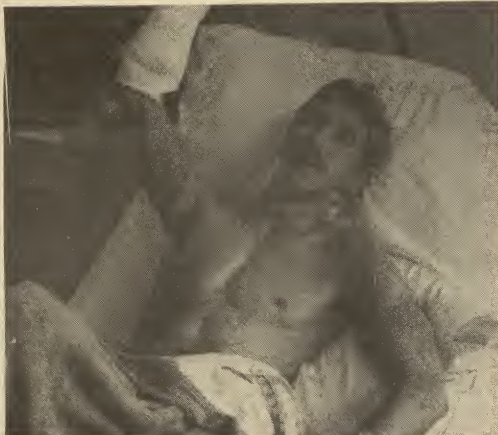
Surprisingly calm, Mills reflected, "It is true that there is an explanation for the behavior of these boys. Possibly their Catholic background and the Hispanic 'macho' upbringing could be reasons for the behavior. However, that does not

forced to hire additional staff — at an additional financial loss. Both men are now working long hours in order to bring the business back to its original state when the incident took place last November.

Much of the damage to the victims has been psychological. Mills said that he is now "not as confident as I was before. I am now more wary of people, particularly at night." David adds, "I am more apprehensive of people." Both men now carry alert devices that when pulled release a loud shrieking sound.

BE ALERT

Mills had always been an observant person — reporting suspicious or illegal conditions to the police and taking license



On the day following his beating by a truck full of teenage thugs, Russell Mills lies in his hospital bed. His injuries left permanent damage.

COURT HEARING

One boy, 17, who had wielded the cane, admitted in court that he committed a felony assault "with intent to do great body injury" to Mills. He said that he realized that this could result in a possible maximum sentence of 7 years incarceration in a California Youth Authority institution. His brother, 16, confessed to a lesser charge of having committed a felony battery with "intent to do serious body injury." He could serve a maximum of 4 years in a CYA institution. The brother's friend, 16, also pled "no lo contendere" to the latter charge.

Assistant District Attorney Walter Aldridge, who is prosecuting the boys, insists that he will continue to ask for incarceration "for some period of time" at the discretion of the judge. Earlier he told *Bay Area Reporter* he was "outraged" when he saw the color photos of the numerous body wounds on Mills after the beating.

The brief Juvenile Court hearing this week began with a challenge of the right of this reporter to be present. One of the defense attorneys asked that the reporter be removed from the room because juveniles were on trial. Having consulted law books earlier, *Bay Area Reporter* was aware of its legal right to be present. Aldridge spoke openly to Judge Hanlon on the right of the press to be present. Hanlon agreed and ruled against the protestor, while cautioning the reporter not to reveal the names of the juveniles.

The near-empty chambers were silent while a pre-trial discussion between attorneys and the judge transpired behind the scenes. The parents of the youths, who were present, had agreed earlier with their children to plead guilty to one charge each rather than face two possible charges. They were also

mean such behavior is justifiable. The boys may be victims of their situation, but they should also be accountable."

Mills and his lover have hired an attorney and will be pressing a civil case in the courts later. Mills states that he probably will never have full use of his left wrist and that this incident has hampered the couple's business operation, a typesetting firm on the Peninsula. He has also developed a painful arthritis in his injured leg. He has a slight limp and experiences difficulty in climbing stairs.

The medical bills have been over \$9,000 thus far, with additional operations and medical care possibly bringing that total to over \$15,000. The costs are only partly covered by insurance. The civil suit will attempt to recover damages from the families.

The couple's typesetting firm has also suffered. David has been forced to work daily until midnight to keep the business operational. They also were

plate numbers of autos in questionable situations. It is this keen observation that resulted in the arrest of what he now calls "the Gay bashers."

"It is unfortunate," Mills relates, "that some Gay people refuse to get involved. There have been cases where victims later refused to testify out of fear. Gay people have to be brave. They should be alert to what is happening around them and be willing to fight back."

The wiser and more cautious Mills praised this newspaper for relating the news of street attacks. He said, "Gay people and city officials must realize that there are people out there who will attack us. Gay people must also not be afraid to try and stop it. If these attacks are not reported in the Gay press they will go unreported. They will continue. B.A.R. may be under attack for being sensational in its news reporting, but the injustices against us will continue if we do not know that they exist."

G. Mendenhall

Sydney Gays March in Raid Protest

by Kendall Lovett

A Gay protest march through Sydney streets on Saturday morning, February 5, attracted an estimated 1,000 people demonstrating against the harassment, illegal detention, and arrests of Gay people over the police raid on Club 80. The march culminated in a large rally addressed by several public figures both Gay and straight in the city square between Sydney Town Hall and St. Andrew's Anglican Cathedral.

The worst aspect associated with the police raid on Club 80 was the bashing (twice) of the sixteen-year old state ward who was taken by police to the Minda Remand Centre for children. Some Minda staff turned a blind eye to the bashings and in a sense incited to action the homophobic tendencies of some of the other kids held at the Centre. After his court appearance the youth was placed in the care of a refuge arranged by members of Twenty Ten, a Gay youth project in

Sydney. As well, a staff member at Minda was suspended pending an enquiry into the bashings at this state institution.

SEX IS NOT RESPECTABLE

On February 11, four of the five men arrested in the Club 80 raid appeared in the Sydney police courts. No pleas were taken and matters were adjourned by the magistrate for approximately six weeks pending further investigations. The magistrate also

instructed the media not to publish the names of those arrested. It was noted that the police in three cases had added a further charge to the existing one of performing an act of indecency with another male person. The additional charge of scandalous misconduct is a summary misdemeanor and, as a common law charge, keeps the cases within the jurisdiction of the magistrate's court. "It has been dredged up from ancient unused statutes probably last used in the 30's," commented one Sydney Gay activist.

The NSW Ombudsman nevertheless has received nineteen separate complaints against the police involved in the Club 80 raid. The police, because of their immunity from public scrutiny will conduct their own internal investigation of these complaints.

SF Voter's Handbook: Gay vs. Gay on Recall



Stonewall Demos have taken the lead in spearheading the recall drive against Mayor Feinstein. Their allies range from John Barbagelata to the pro-guns White Panthers. (Photo: Rink)

Two opposing Gay groups submitted arguments on the proposed recall of Mayor Dianne Feinstein to the Voter Registrar. Both will appear in the Voter's Handbook at a later date.

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club has an anti-Feinstein argument which is signed by club president Paul Boneberg and vice president Leslie Ann Manning.

The pro-mayor statement is signed by 38 Lesbians and Gay men. Included are attorney Thomas Horn, Police Commissioner Jo Daly, mayoral aide Peter Nardoza, B.A.R. editor Paul Lorch, entertainer/critic Lori Shannon (Don McLean), B.A.R. political columnist Wayne Friday, activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, and attorney Lawrence Wilson.

These are the arguments as they will appear in the Voter's Handbook:

STONEWALL POSITION

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club supports the recall of Mayor Feinstein. She has broken her campaign promises to the Lesbian/Gay community; the facts are clear:

Fact: Anti-Gay violence and police abuse continue. Mayor Feinstein's police sweep Polk, conduct unwarranted arrests in Castro (including her own Gay aide), harass minority communities.

Fact: Vetted domestic partner legislation which extended benefits to Lesbian/Gay couples now enjoyed only by married couples. Her remarks on this issue were homophobic.

Fact: She has appointed shockingly few Lesbian/Gay people to city-wide boards.

Fact: She has never attended annual Gay parade.

Fact: She's downtown's mayor, promoting maximum high-rise development, while opposing renters, and condominium bans. She opposes taxing downtown, as MUNI fares and parking fines skyrocket!

We need a new mayor fighting for the Lesbian/Gay community's program, not downtown's!

VOTE YES TO RECALL MAYOR FEINSTEIN.

ANTI-RECALL RESPONSE

We urge you to vote NO on the recall.

From the introduction of her historic nondiscrimination ordinance in 1971 to her appointment of 16 Gay people to city Boards and Commissions, from her televised debate of Senator John Briggs on Proposition 6 to her address to the Democratic National Convention in support of the Gay Rights platform in 1980, Mayor Dianne Feinstein has proven her concern for the Lesbian and Gay community. She has fought hard to ensure that our rights are protected: locally, state-wide, and on a national level.

We all agree that San Francisco is a special place and for the past 14 years Dianne Feinstein has been a civic leader devoting her time to see that it remains so, not only for us in the Gay community, but for all San Franciscans.

Please join us in defeating this needless recall. Vote NO on April 26.

City Clinic V.D. Street Screening

March 4	Friday	Castro Street	11:30-1:30 pm.
March 12	Saturday	Polk Street	12-3 pm.
March 26	Saturday	Castro Street	12-3 pm.
April 8	Friday	Castro Street	11:30-1:30 pm.
April 16	Saturday	Polk Street	12-3 pm.
April 30	Saturday	Castro Street	12-3 pm.

Free V.D. Testing will be held at the above locations unless cancelled due to bad weather. The Polk Street site is located (in the clinic van) across from Carlene's of Maui near Sutter Street. The Castro site is on the corner of 18th in front of Star Pharmacy. Testing is done by Clinic Volunteers and authorized by San Francisco City Clinic on 7th Street.

AB-1 Jobs Bill Wins 1st Hurdle

Meanwhile, 15 Arrests as NYC Says No Again

"We've done this so often that everybody knows where everybody stands," Thomas J. Cuite, majority leader of the New York City Council said on Tuesday. His truism applied on both coasts as California's state assembly began again to hear the arguments on a job rights bill for Gay people. The California hearing before the Assembly Labor and Education Committee was virtually a repeat of anti-Gay evangelical ministers and pro-Gay legislators, Gay activists and civil libertarians who appeared in the NYC council chambers.

"It is well known that workers who are militant in their homosexuality can cause a lot of disruption on the job," cautioned Rev. W.B. Timberlake at the hearing. The perennial alarmist with the message that Gay people are sinners was joined by other evangelical ministers. They were countered by representatives of the major Catholic and Protestant speakers, a prison guard who lost his job because he was Gay, and a state labor official.

AB-1 bill by Assemblyman Art Agnos would ban discrimination against homosexuals in employment. It passed its first hurdle (7-5) after a two hour debate and now moves to Ways and Means. The New York City bill was much broader as it would have put a legal end to discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. It lost (6-3) after a 15-hour committee debate with 202 witnesses.

Fifteen people refused to leave the NY council chambers after the hearing and were arrested. Earlier testimony had been heard from such people as a representative of the Roman Catholic Archbishop who opposed the equal employment section of the bill and a conservative radio talk-show host who said it was all a plot "to validate a lifestyle."

Agnos carried the AB-1 bill with considerable enthusiasm. He was joined by hard-core activists who believe this may be the year to at least get the bill through the Assembly. The assemblyman has vigorously promoted his bill while much of the Gay community, discouraged by previous defeats, became apathetic. One blow to Agnos was the disbanding last year of the state lobbying group in

lobbying group in Sacramento, Gay Rights Advocates. Courageously moving on, against odds, the legislator won more support this year by adding new Assembly co-sponsors. He is convinced that he has a real possibility of victory in the Assembly in 1983 "if Gay groups throughout the state back us up."

If AB-1 is not successful in Sacramento this year, Agnos will be back with it again in 1984. He is not discouraged as it took Assemblyman Willie Brown six years to have his "private consensual sex" bill signed into law.

Whether the bill passes or not, Agnos believes "this is a very valuable process of education. More and more legislators understand that Gay and Lesbian people are entitled to the same rights and responsibilities as other citizens."

CHR Objects to Blood Banks' Screening

Over 53 members of the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual community, representing a wide variety of organizations, centered discussion at the Coalition for Human Rights monthly meeting of February 16 on the issue of recent attempts to separate out Gay men from blood donation.

Members expressed concern over Irwin Memorial Blood Bank's new guidelines which were adopted with Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights' approval. It was unanimously decided that CHR co-chairs, Pat Norman and Randy Stallings, would meet with Irwin Memorial Blood Bank representatives to ascertain whether CHR's previous recommendations had been misinterpreted. CHR had decided that blood banks should develop a "surrogate screening process that will guarantee the safety of each unit of donated blood" and that this process "should in no way exclude any potential donor on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, national origin, or race."

Norman has stated that "the attempt to prevent Gay men from giving blood diverts the medical community's attention away from the real need in responding to this problem — seeing to it that all the resources of local, state, and federal government are made available to fund patient care, to do research into the real causes, and to find a cure."

If the co-chairs are unable to convince the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank to change its position, they have been directed by the membership to speak with the National Gay Rights Advocates, other legal advisors, and Lesbian/Gay groups to explore the possibility of national litigation against blood banks that attempt to discriminate.

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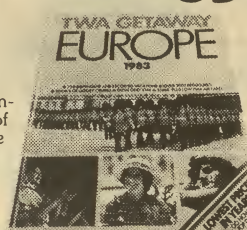
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Gay Rights Bill Begins in Indiana

Gay rights legislation has been introduced in the Indiana Legislature for the first time in the state's history. State Senator Louis Mahern (D-Indianapolis) is the sole sponsor of the bill, which would extend protection to Gays in the areas of housing and employment. Mahern's attorneys had researched whether public accommodations could also be included in the legislation's provisions.

Mahern decided to introduce the bill after a meeting with Gay activists during Gay Pride Week in Indianapolis last year. "There was a Lesbian couple there," he said, "and they asked me, 'What would it be like to go through life without telling anybody who you love?' Well, that kind of squeezed my heart. For a while I walked around thinking 'Why me? Why not someone else?' But then I realized that if I didn't do it, it wouldn't get done."

The bill, however, stands no chance of passage this year. Mahern admits this, and so does a spokeswoman for Justice, Inc., Indiana's largest Gay rights or-

ganization. For one thing, the bill has been referred to the Senate Rules Committee, which, Mahern says, is "where legislation goes to be killed." Normally, civil rights-related measures go to the Judiciary Committee, but Mahern said, "There's a perception among politicians that there's not much support."

Another reason the bill will not pass this year owes to Indiana's unique legislative system. The Legislature meets for only four months in odd years and for two months in even years. That means that were committee hearings to be held on the bill this year, activists would have virtually no time to rally support for its passage.

Indiana is considered to be one of the most conservative states in the nation. Republicans control both houses of the Legislature, by a 32-18 margin in the Senate and a 57-43 margin in the House. That, Mahern says, doesn't help the bill's chances any. "Frankly," he says, "it (Gay rights) scares the crap out of them."

Parade Beer Committee

The Parade Beer Committee will meet on Tuesdays, March 1 and 15, at 8 p.m.

Because the Parade Committee has not been permitted to occupy offices previously arranged for, no announcement of location can be made at this time. Call the Committee at 861-5404 on or before the day of the meeting for further information.

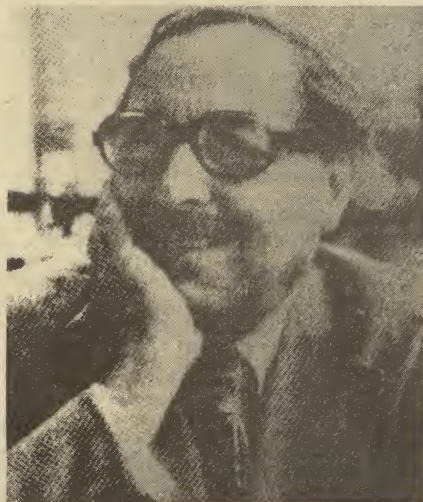
The principal subject of the meeting will be site distribution.

Another DC Appointment

A Gay man, David Vos has been hired as a legislative assistant in Washington, D.C.'s, newly-created Office of Intergovernmental Relations. Vos, 29, will make \$25,000 a year monitoring the city council's Committee on Education and Committee on Libraries, Recreation, and related youth affairs.

Tennessee Williams

(Continued from page 1)



was owed a lot of royalties that he could only spend there, I took both summer and winter clothing in my trousseau. I can still see all my suitcases arriving as we stepped off the plane. It was August in New Orleans. The buildings in the French Quarter were sweating like Brando in *Streetcar*. Tennessee was dressed in a white Panama suit and hat and wiping his forehead, and I had brought sweaters and a fur coat. He did say Russia, and though we never got there, we did get to several other places on the whirlwind tour, including his ironically named "Victorian" suite at the Elysee Hotel in New York where he recently died.

It was in them that he once asked me to dance. We were passing time awaiting the arrival of a hustler he knew. He put a romantic tune by The Inkspots on the stereo and asked, "Do you lead or follow?" I said, "I'll lead," and Tennessee remarked, "That's fine. I learned to follow in Mexico."

Also in those rooms I became familiar with his daily ritual, as he worked on the first draft of a play I later typed, *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur*.

Tennessee did not stop writing, though critics learned to anticipate a voice which had become familiar to them and then berated him for what he did so well — display the human heart in all its shadings. If he were alive, Tennessee might say

that the human heart has gone out of business. It is no longer commercial, nor assures big hits. Theater today tends to hide itself in a cloak of sophistication or smother itself with big hats. There is little room for the flutterings of Blanche DuBois or the palpitations of Alma Wine-miller. It is somehow ironic that Tom suffocated on a medicine cap, for in *Summer and Smoke* his character was always saying to her doctor lover, "I can't breathe!" No playwright could have breathed in the air of those New York critics, and it will take regional theaters to rediscover the heart that Tennessee had.

His lover, Frank Merlo, died of cancer in the early 60's, and Tennessee did "drop out" for awhile. In his words, he "slept through the 60's." He resurrected from his depression after his heart got recharged. The life force came back and Tennessee began writing again in the 70's on a daily basis. He would rise at four every morning and write. The typewriter would sit in the middle of the room, and among a stream of paper, he would go clicking and chortling away. Williams loved to laugh and embarrassed all sorts of people by laughing the loudest at productions of his plays. During a performance of *Eccentricities of a Nightingale* on Cape Cod he turned to me and said, "The reason Alma thinks she can't breathe is because she's imagin-

ing that doctor's cock down her throat." Later, while giving actress Betsy Palmer stage notes, he told her, "You must learn to speak with the lips of your cunt." Williams would be the last person on earth to deny sexuality or "the life force" in anything. It was not that the soul of an individual rests in his or her libido, but he might add "very close."

It has been said by some that Williams became egocentric and selfish and self-indulgent. This is unfair. It is true that he liked his wine, and had a cast-iron liver; but I have never known anyone to be so sensitive to the sufferings of others. Over and over again I would marvel at how he would empathize and want to experience the feelings of others — to share in their small joys and agonies. During our stay in New Orleans, Williams and I visited his poet friend, Oliver Evans, who had become partially paralyzed from a bout with cancer and had been put in an old age nursing home by his family to essentially die a spiritless death. Tennessee brought him one of his favorite books, Joseph Conrad's *Youth*, and was horrified to see a man of letters with his mind intact confined to a place with senile, speechless people. As we visited, a hearse pulled up to cart someone away. Tennessee offered Oliver Evans his own apartment in New Orleans with the care of a male nurse to see to his needs. That was the heart of a man who just died — and a Gay one at that.

Tennessee was never embarrassed to speak honestly and openly and wore his heart on his sleeve, where it could be easily wounded. He loved emotional storms, and where one did not exist he would stir it up. Once, while I was talking to my boyfriend on the phone, Tennessee took the receiver away from me and said, "Let me talk to him." This conversation has gone on long enough." I was in tears, and Tennessee explained to him, "This boy's a writer!" Well, that has yet to be proved, but it was convincing at the time.

To Tennessee the worst crime was deliberate cruelty. He cared for friends, but had almost more faith in strangers. He loved the downtrodden and liked cheering them up. He loved to watch old ladies cross the street on their own steam. I will miss him from the bottom of my heart, because he showed me his.

D. Turner

QUICKIES!

Berkeley Lecture

Sex and Women's Rights

"Prostitute Rights, Lesbian Rights, Abortion Rights — the Key to Women's Autonomy" will delve into oppression by societal mores in a talk by Priscilla Alexander, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 16, at the North Berkeley Senior Center, Hearst at Grove, Berkeley, during a meeting of the East Bay Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). The public is welcome.

"So long as any woman is stigmatized by her sexual activity, all women are scarred by the stigma," Alexander summarized.

Alexander actively promotes prostitute rights through her leadership in several national, state, and local organizations. Since 1979 she has served as co-director of the National Task Force on Prostitution (formerly COYOTE). It was through meeting COYOTE's founder, Margo St. James, Alexander said, that she began to connect discrimination against women with social and legal attitudes towards prostitutes.

Alexander chairs two California NOW state-wide committees — Economic Justice and Prostitutes' Rights.

Gay Scholarship

The Gay Academic Union (Bay Area) is pleased to announce a prize of \$300 to be presented to a student currently enrolled in a Bay Area college or university in recognition of excellent scholarly or creative work that relates to Gay issues, images, or themes. Interested students should submit a letter of application describing the particulars of his or her project by April 15, 1983, to: The Awards Committee, GAU (BA), P.O. Box 5382, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Lose Weight

District Health Center #1, located at 3850 17th Street, offers a 14-week weight reduction program starting March 16. Sessions will be held Wednesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$30 and includes all materials. To register, call 558-3905, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Committee may request additional information or evidence from applicants in order to help it reach a decision.

KGO Radio

This Saturday night live on KGO-FM (FM 104) The David Lambie Talk Show will examine the complex relationships between the Lesbian/Gay community and the Roman Catholic Church. David's guest from 7:05 to 10 p.m. will be Kevin Gordon, chairperson of the Task Force on Lesbian/Gay Issues of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. In 1976 the U.S. Catholic Bishops declared that "homosexuals, like everyone else, should not suffer from prejudice against their basic human rights." In 1981 the Task Force on Lesbian/Gay Issues received its mandate "to develop a city-wide educational program against violent acts to anyone, regardless of their lifestyle."

Sunday night from 7:05 to 9 p.m. two representatives from the San Francisco chapter of Black and White Men Together (BWMT) will discuss a BWMT report that charges that there has been a virtual ban on hiring non-White Gay bar workers in San Francisco Gay bars. The BWMT report is based on a study of employment practices at nearly one hundred Gay bars in the city. From 9:05 to 10 p.m. freelance writer John Kyper reports on his recent week in Cuba which he calls "A Little Sex, No Drugs, and Lotsa Rock 'n' Roll." Listener call-ins are encouraged at 928-0104.

Lesbian/Gay Labor Forum Organizes

The fourth meeting of the newly formed Lesbian/Gay Labor Forum will be held Tuesday, March 8, at 7 p.m. at the Local 2 offices, 209 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco. All interested working Gay men and Lesbians are welcome to attend.

The Forum has chosen as its major initial project the organization of a large Lesbian/Gay Labor contingent and focus at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade in June.

Other topics will include: organizing Lesbian/Gay caucuses in each union; long-term goals for the Forum; finance, and the organizational structure of the Forum.

For more information, please contact Vince at 863-2632, evenings, or Larry at 648-6535.

Stonewall Tackles AIDS

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club at its meeting Monday, March 7, will hold a panel discussion on the political implications of the AIDS medical crisis. The panel will include Pat Norman, Human Rights Coalition Co-Chair; Jere Kelly, American Association of Public Health Workers; and Rick Crane from the KS Foundation, and will update the club and guests on recent political developments of AIDS.

Stonewall President Paul Boneberg expressed concern about the lack of discussion of the politics of AIDS in the Lesbian/Gay community.

"When on the basis of a two-year old medical study and seven hundred Gay men who have AIDS there are serious actions taken to ban or restrict all Gay men from giving blood in this country, then it is imperative that Lesbian and Gay people respond politically to those who would distort a medical crisis for homophobic reasons. While Lesbian and Gay health workers can respond to the medical aspect of this issue, the political organizations must not hesitate to respond to the blatant attempts to politically scapegoat Gay men because of the AIDS crisis."

Thrift Store Distributes \$8,000

As a result of its first four months of operation, ending December 31, 1982, the Community Thrift Store will be paying out \$7985.39 in benefits to nonprofit groups of the Gay and Lesbian community, plus many other groups as well.

The biggest beneficiaries are Karposi's Sarcoma Foundation (\$226.85), Tavern Guild Foundation (\$771.23), Women's Building (\$368.52),

Shanti Project (\$335.93), Women's Switchboard (\$309.11), Community United Against Violence (\$303.73) — and there are 63 others.

If you can help, please call 861-4910, or come in to the store and talk to the manager, Don Miesen. The store is at 625 Valencia Street, between 17th and 18th, and is open 7 days a week, from 11 am. to 6 pm.



PARK ALERT! Reports persist that plainclothes police are making arrests at the T-room in Golden Gate Park. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Task Force vs. Archdiocese

(Continued from page 2)

cated and they do not know how to cope with what is happening."

Armstrong says, "This commission is not a forum to bring dissent. You go to the seminary for that. Some of this is beyond our purview."

"The point of the report," Gordon stresses, "is that one of the reasons for the violence against Gays is the attitude of the church. It is a rigid position that it takes. The church is part of the problem."

The outspoken pastor of St. Boniface Church, Fr. Robert Pfisterer, also entered into the controversy over the task force this week. The pastor of the large Tenderloin church said,

"When will Catholic clerics learn what most Americans already know — that free and open discussion of ideas is far more beneficial to the Church than strongarm tactics aimed at crushing views different from our own?"

Gordon insists, "We should not be discouraged. People are beginning to demand a national dialogue on sexual ethics in general and homosexuality in particular. They are beginning to demand a re-examination of noninfallible religious doctrine. Any local group of church bureaucrats does not equal the Roman Catholic Church — much less the genius of Judeo-Christianity."

G. Mendenhall

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Rev. Bob Cunningham, Pastor
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Jack Collins, A Gay Instructor for Gay Literature

by Martin J. Wojewoda

Jack Collins is a bright and enthusiastic instructor with the English Department of City College. The classes that Collins teaches are very special to him and to his students; he is one of two instructors currently teaching Gay-Lesbian Literature at City College of San Francisco.

Gay Literature, English 55, had its beginnings at CCSF in 1971 at their Experimental College. The course, started by Don Liles and Dan Allen, joined the regular English Department curriculum after the first semester or two. It is transferable as credit to UC Berkeley and San Francisco State. In addition, the course is endorsed at the state level and may be considered as a tacit endorsement of the concept of Gay Literature by the state.

The course alternated between being taught in the day or the evening. Great strides were made in the Fall of 1982 when the site of the course was transferred to the new Castro/Valencia campus of City College at Everett Middle School. It then became a case of the college course coming to Gays and Lesbians. With that change also came a change in course structure. English 55, Gay Literature, became English 55A, Gay-Lesbian Literature (a survey course) and English 55B (a topical survey, to be taught for the first time this Spring).

Of the changes in structure, Collins says, "The course tended to change as time goes on. The course had reflected the interests of Gay people, Gay students, and Gay instructors as their attitudes changed."

Jack Collins came into teaching the course in 1979 as a substitute for one of the instructors on a sabbatical. Collins, a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Stanford University, gained interest in Gay Literature as part of the continuing coming out process. In 1974 upon returning to San Francisco from studies abroad, Collins found that the Gay life here was totally changed and much more open. It was then that he began to search out Gay reading material. "Reading exposed me to a lot of thinking about being Gay. It helped me to interpret what I was seeing."

With his literary training, Collins began talking with friends, collecting Gay Literature, and writing a column for the *Sentinel*, reviewing books or interviewing Gay writers. "I found this to be an exciting new field. It is a field that had been in the closet or ignored until the early 70's."

What makes up Gay Literature? Collins views it "as a wide subject area as people read. Some people would say it is literature with a certain consciousness about being Gay or Lesbian. It is a consciousness that began with Stonewall and really a political/sexual liberation movement in the late 60's and early 70's. Some people would say that Gay Literature includes a literature that manifests a consciousness amenable to that movement."

"Some people would say any form of literature that deals with Homosexuality is Gay Lit, beginning with the earliest writings in Western culture. People who take this view, which I support very strongly, are historical in their approach and are looking for information all the way." Collins balances between the contemporary political definition and the 5000 year old

approach. He thinks that both approaches are valid.

The characters may not always be openly Gay or obvious in the pieces that Collins chooses for his course material. An example of this is Alice Walker's novel *The Color Purple* which was taught this past term. However, Collins will usually try to choose a piece with a male or female homosexual character or situation.

"So little is really known about sexuality in 1983; it is best to keep things wide open and not narrow them." Collins will also choose a piece for identification with characters, such as Rita Mae Brown's *Rubyfruit Jungle*.

Another way to look at Gay Literature, Collins says, is to ask "Is the author homosexual?" This approach goes on the writer's sexuality, either defined or suspected; it is biographical in its approach. This depends on the reader in 1983. "As widely or as narrowly as the reader defines his or her homosexuality, that is how wide or narrow Gay-Lesbian literature is."

Gay Lit prospers in the Castro Community College

Jack Collins teaches his Gay-Lesbian literature from a feminist stance, defining it as a man. "I learned more about women in teaching the Gay course than I learned in my whole life. It is a perspective that recognizes the terrible injustices that are done to women and a commitment to raise the consciousness about these injustices among all students, men and women. Particularly among the men, who are often unaware or blind, as I was when I first began to teach the course."

Jack Collins is willing to change his opinions as time goes on. He is willing to accept different interpretations for the same reading materials that he has used over the years. He finds that interpretations of the material will change and he doesn't insist that any material exhibit Gay/Lesbian/Feminist consciousness. He doesn't insist that any student accept his interpretation. Collins also says that we can learn from homophobic material.

"I choose books for the purpose of discussion and examination, not because I particularly like them. I don't think that we should blindly accept the political judgment of books without really examining books and learning what we are talking about." In choosing his books, he points out that he does not choose the material just for the scholarly view. Collins chooses his material for all kinds of reasons.

The course material not only consists of novels, but does consist of other forms of literature as well. Collins says that at some future time he would like to teach a course in conjunction with the Castro Theater and look at Gay books turned into films. He also indicates there are numerous possibilities for future courses in the Gay Humanities.

"The Gay Literature course is the only Gay culture course in the city. Until other courses are developed, the focus of the course will go past literature to all experience."

Collins encourages his students to work outwards from their experiences with the literature, to enjoy it, and to relate it to their sexuality, whether it is through their class projects or what they say during the class. "I don't have a limited view of what a literature class is at all."

Different types of people take CCSF's Gay-Lesbian Literature course. The people "take the class when they're thinking about their lives in some way," observes Collins. They take it whether it's for change, enrichment, or decision. They find it a useful mechanism for intellectual or emotional change. Many find themselves in the early stages of coming out, a process which tends to take a long time. Many people find it an effort to take the Gay-Lesbian Literature course; for them it is an important thing to take a

course like this. Many people, on the other hand, don't take a course like this. Collins respects those who do.

In this type of a cultural forum, a spectrum of people are attracted to the course. Gay men and Lesbians, young and old, affluent and not so affluent. The age range extends from those just out of high school at 17 to those at 65 who have been out for many years.

Though the course is open to Gay men and Lesbians and the material is structured to be appealing to both, the class make-up has been predominantly men. Collins was pleased to find that during the first semester of English 55A, one-third of the class were women. "The way that I teach the course, women will find it attractive, helpful," Collins says.

Because of the wide age range of the students, interpretations vary between the older and the younger students. "The differences are due to life experiences to a certain extent," observes Collins. "I think you tend to become more circumspect, not necessarily more conservative, but you tend to think more before you support a political action when you become older. When you're younger, you're much more out there. And I've noticed this in the past that the younger people tend to be much more political about their sexuality. Even there, there are shifts. Younger people taking the class three years ago were more political than the younger people taking the class now, which I think reflects the larger trends in our society. People who are older have also been through a lot more. Differences and life experiences drastically affect one's outlook. Most people are there to talk about how literature discusses the sexuality they belong to."



Community College Gay Lit instructor Jack Collins. (Photo: Rink)

Collins has found that the course has profound impact in people's lives in one way or another. "Every term I come out a little bit more and a little bit different," reflects Collins. "We've had some very emotional last sessions, where it is hard for people and hard for me to let go of the class because we grow so much and grow together."

Collins does not find much difference in the type of students that are taking the course at its new site at the Castro/Valencia location. However, he does find that more Gay men and Lesbians are willing to take courses at this site. Collins attributes this to the fact that the campus location of City College was intimidating to many Gays. Some of the worst times for Gay men and Lesbians are their days in school. Many find that a Gay class is more relaxed and different from other classroom experiences. Since the move to Everett Middle School, the numbers attending the class have noticeably increased, especially the number of women students.

What is for the immediate future? This Spring Jack Collins will be teaching his

"Dream List" of Gay literature. Collins will be the instructor for English 55B — Gay-Lesbian Literature II, as it is offered for the first time by City College. This is a topic course which is as flexible as the instructor wishes it to be. Material and topics for this course will change in the future.

For the Spring of 1983, Collins has chosen to teach the novels and short stories of the 40's and the 50's. This will encompass the time period during World War II through the McCarthy era and the 1950's. Students will get a picture of what the Gay world was like before Gay liberation.

Collins' list includes Truman Capote, Christopher Isherwood, Gore Vidal, Tennessee Williams, Paul & Jane Bowles, James Purdy, and James Baldwin.

City College will be offering English 55B at the Castro/Valencia site at Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street (at 17th Street) Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The course will also be offered on the main campus on Tuesdays, 7 to 10 p.m. The courses begin February 7 and 8, respectively.

Police Commission & OCC

(Continued from page 3)

training and there is not enough assertiveness being taught to officers. There's not any kind of techniques in terms of how to mediate a situation versus being forceful. 90 to 95% of the training they get is paramilitary training. We are not in Vietnam; this is not World War II. We are dealing with human beings on the street." He said everyone was entitled to just treatment, whether they were an alcoholic, a drug addict or a bank robber.

The next witness was Julius Zamacona who has worked in community police relations for years. He chided the commissioners. "You are not going to get anywhere unless you get with it. Try to help us." He held up newspaper clippings showing altercations with the police. He pleaded that the police become more responsive to the people whom they were supposed to serve.

The last witness was Steve Owyang, an attorney and representative of the Chinese American Democratic Club. "Despite my lawyer demeanor," he said, "I've been at the wrong end of a police stick simply because I was exercising my first amendment rights of free speech." Owyang did not like Article 5.3 of the rules. "The finding of fact becomes final, but the disposition, the action that follows is not mandated." His conclusion was that "the Director must be willing to acknowledge that there are police misconduct problems."

After the hearing Catherine Cusic said the only way for the police problems to stop is if good behavior in the police department is rewarded and bad behavior punished. She felt that would only happen if there was "constant community pressure."

POLITICS AND POKER



Recall Rollback Begins

WAYNE FRIDAY

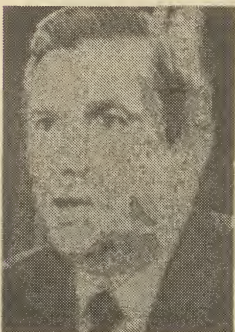
San Franciscans for Responsible Elections, the anti-recall effort has opened headquarters at 1601 Van Ness at California. Mayor Feinstein kicked off the No on A campaign Saturday at the former Democratic Party campaign site (headquarters phone: 673-4141).



Mayor's campaign to save her job is underway and brings a smile back to her face.

A total of 202 persons spoke at last week's 15-hour hearing before the New York City Council's General Welfare Committee on that city's proposed Gay rights bill, which was defeated for the 11th time in 12 years (the committee is stacked with homophobic Democratic councilmembers from Brooklyn and Queens). Mayor Ed Koch and former mayor John Lindsay supported the legislation while another former mayor, Abe Beame, joined a long list of rabbis opposing the measure. According to the ACLU, one state (Wisconsin) and 50 cities have thus far adopted Gay rights legislation.

Ohio Senator John Glenn, one of the leading Demo presidential contenders, has finally come out of the closet on Gay rights and says that he would not hesitate to appoint qualified Gays to the White House staff. Meanwhile, another announced Democrat, former Florida Governor Reubin Askew, who showed his homophobic colors when he was governor during the time Anita Bryant was conducting her anti-Gay Dade County campaign, said again last week that he opposes "freedom of choice" abortion and would definitely NOT hire a homosexual to his staff.



Florida's Governor Askew

Supervisor Quentin Kopp was recently elected to a two-year term as chairman of the regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Kopp, who replaces Bill Lucios of Sonoma County, is the first San Franciscan to serve as chair of the commission, which allocates state and federal funds for road projects and transportation sys-

tems throughout the nine Bay Area counties. • The Dan White Incident, the first of two scheduled plays on the double-murderer, produced by The Illustrated Stage Company, will open March 29 at the People's Theatre, Building B, Fort Mason Center (tickets will range from \$7; 495-6566 for info). Harvey Milk is played by actor Theodore Pappas and Dan White is portrayed by actor Kevin Reilly.

Governor Deukmejian's office announced with much fanfare this week that the Duke favors tougher penalties for marijuana users and supports the Reagan war on drug dealers. Meanwhile, in Oregon marijuana would be legalized, taxed, and sold through state liquor stores under a bill proposed by Oregon state Senator Ed Fadeley. The Eugene senator says the state could raise \$100 million a year by taxing retail sales of the plant.

East Bay Democratic Assemblyman Tom Bates, a long-time supporter of the Gay and Lesbian community introduced legislation last week that would make it a state civil rights violation to threaten or harm Gays because of their sexual preferences. Saying the incidence of anti-Gay violence is on the increase in many California cities, Bates says his bill would give Gays additional protections that they may not get under the state's criminal law. The Unruh Civil Rights act, already law in California, gives citizens the right to file civil lawsuits against anyone who attempts to deprive them of their right to be free from violence and intimidation on the basis of race, religion, sex, or national origin, but the Bates legislation would extend the same rights to persons threatened or actually harmed because of their "sexual preference." Under the proposed Bates legislation Gays would be able to sue for damages plus a \$10,000 penalty for violence or threats based upon their homosexuality.

My spies out of L.A. tell me that officials of the Municipal Elections Committee of L.A. (MECLA) are waiting until official confirmation to announce that presidential candidate Gary Hart of Colorado is expected as the star guest speaker at their planned April fundraiser/dinner, but you read it here first. • Another presidential hopeful, Alan Cranston, stands to gain the most with the upset victory in Chicago last week by Congressman Harold Washington. Walter Mondale endorsed incumbent Jane Byrne, while Cranston endorsed underdog Washington, and the con-



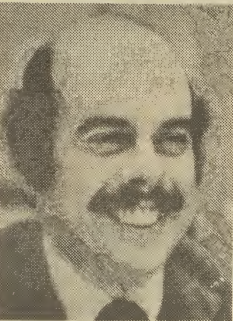
Gary Hart — presidential dark-horse candidate.

gressman and his people are reportedly not about to forgive Fritz. • The S.F. Demo County Committee and the state Demo organization will use the occasion of welcoming the Convention Site Selection Committee of the Demo National Committee to hold a big party honoring retiring County Chairperson Agar Jaicks at the Hall of Flowers (Golden Gate Park) on March 11 (tickets \$10, \$15, or \$50; 981-7154 for info).



Democrats to fete retiring County Chair Agar Jaicks.

The Reagan administration's fiscal year 1984 budget which was announced last week proposes that the federal government spend over \$11 million on research into the cause and treatment of AIDS. The budget calls for about \$2 million to be spent at the Atlanta-based Center for Disease Control and another \$9.3 million to be spent at the Bethesda, MD-based National Institute for Health. A large part of the credit for this increased funding certainly should go to Hollywood Congressman Henry Waxman (D), the chair of the



L.A.'s pro-Gay Congressman Henry Waxman.

House sub-committee on Health and Environment. Waxman warns, however, that the actual appropriation could be in danger in the current House session because of attempts by national New Right groups to block this funding. A recent edition of *Human Events Magazine*, a right-wing publication, attacked Congress for having appropriated over \$2 million for AIDS research in the last session, claiming that Congress appears to have been influenced in passing of such funds by "militant homosexuals." Congressional staffers are spending a lot of work and time on securing AIDS research funds, including Bill Kraus from Congressman Burton's office.

Last week's column carried the item about the state Senate passing (22 to 6) the bill by Senator Robert Presley (SB 34) that would make it harder for charges to be brought against a police officer in California. San Francisco's Senator Foran voted for the bill, while Marks didn't vote. The legislation is now headed for the Assembly. • The most expensive legislative race in the state last November was waged in the 44th A.D. in L.A. where winner Tom Hayden (D) spent over \$2 million to win an Assembly seat. The biggest disparity was in San Francisco where Speaker (Continued on next page)

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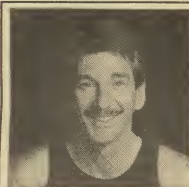
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Program for Victims

DIANA ZABARTE-CHRISTENSEN

Community United Against Violence announces a new program for victims of violent assault: **EXODUS: A Program for Conquering Victimization for Gay Men.** The program consists of seven sessions focusing on the multi-dimensions of anti-Gay violence. Participants will examine their experiences as victims of an anti-Gay assault in a group setting and through the group facilitators, support each other in conquering anti-Gay victimization.

Realizing that victims of violent attack may require support beyond the criminal justice system, CUAV offers this new free service for anyone suffering emotional trauma as a result of anti-Gay violence. Rather than focusing only on an actual anti-Gay assault, EXODUS examines how victimization goes beyond the incident itself and is manifested in a structured society that both fosters homophobia and violence towards Gay identified persons. EXODUS is designed to examine victimization and "complete the circle" to get out of it. The program is as follows:

Session 1: Sharing the Common Experiences: The personal experiences of anti-Gay assault.

Session 2: Learning Victimization: Early Patterns and the Family: How our families and friends may have been conduits to our victimization as we made the decision to come-out.

Session 3: Victimization in the Larger Community: Society and Authority: How medicine, psychiatry, religion and other sociological faculties reinforce victimization. What strides have been taken by Lesbian and Gay leaders to change the focus of those forces victimizing the community.

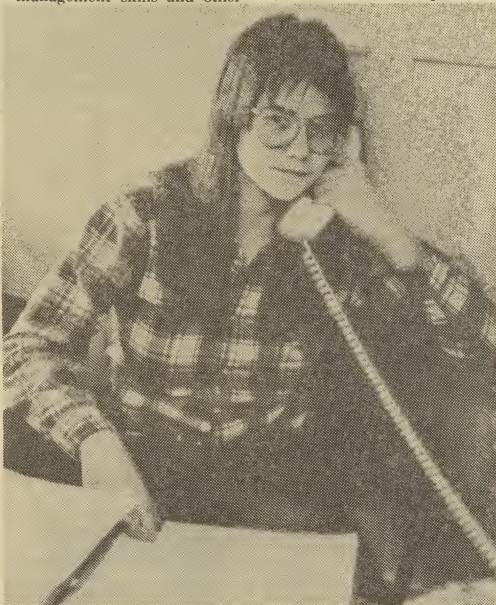
Session 4 & Session 5: A Way Out: Empowering Ourselves: What makes us targets? What

positive steps can be taken to prevent this from happening again? Is there such a thing as a "victim's consciousness"? How to develop stress-management skills and other

skills focusing on emotional well-being.

Session 6: Commitment to the Community; Sharing the Power: Reflecting and learning the dynamics of inter-group facilitation. Persons who have completed the sessions up to this point will now learn the role of a co-facilitator. Working with a facilitator, they will be taught the mechanics on how to co-facilitate the new group which will begin in two weeks.

Session 7: Completion of the Circle; A New Beginning: This last session will be the beginning of the new group about to undergo the process of the change. The original group now engages in Creative Listening, a dynamic learned in the previous



CUAV's able spokeswoman Diana Christensen. (Photo: Rink)

session. The new group begins **Session 1: Sharing the Common Experience: The personal experiences of anti-Gay assault.**

EXODUS is developed and coordinated by Randy Schell, Client Advocate for CUAV. He acts also as a co-facilitator. The main facilitator is Dr. Jesse Gutierrez, F.S.C., Ph.D. Dr. Gutierrez is a clinical psychologist with 15 years experience in group dynamics. He has been active in both the Latin and Gay community as a facilitator and social activist. Dan O'Connor is the director of Bridgebuilding, a ministry to the alienated. His background is in psychosynthesis and focuses on skills in role-playing and stress management. Additionally, other members of the community have been asked to contribute their skills during the seven sessions. If you are interested in contributing to any of these sessions, please contact Randy Schell at CUAV.

If you have experienced anti-Gay assault, physical or emotional, and if you would like to become a member of a group, call the CUAV offices at our business number — 864-3112. Or, stop by our offices on Saturday 5th from 1-4 pm. Any questions you have will be answered by co-facilitators.

QUICK HITS:

A sample of reports to CUAV:

Castro/19th 24 Divisadero Muni: A witness reported to CUAV that a male, approximately 21 years of age was hit in the chest by an assailant who claimed that the victim had stepped on his foot. The assailant then hit the victim in the face and upper portion of his body with fists. An unidentified man on the bus began yelling to the driver that he wanted to report the incident to the police. The

driver of the bus then closed the rear door of the bus to prevent anyone from getting out. However, the assailant kicked open one of the windows, crawled out and fled the scene of the incident. The police arrived and entered the bus and took the report from witnesses of the assault. One of the witnesses stated that the victim was transported to San Francisco General for treatment. The reportee of this incident claims that the victim was bleeding profusely from the nose.

Mission/22nd: The survivor of this assault was in a bar when the assailant hit him in the face. The victim fell to the floor and the assailant kicked the victim in the head with his cowboy boots. A witness called the police who arrived immediately and discovered the victim bleeding from the head. The victim was transported to M.E.H. for treatment. The assailant was found and was arrested.

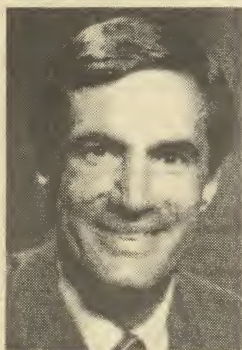
Dolores/Guerrero/14th St.: This reportee was walking on the street and was accosted by two men who wanted his money. The reportee took mace out of his pocket and pointed it at the suspects. The suspects then left. The reportee then followed the suspects and finally called the police. Police then arrived immediately and the reportee gave them the report. The police then went in pursuit of the suspects and finally picked someone up. Then the police were flagged down by a second victim who told them that he had been robbed at knifepoint. The victim stated that he was called a "fag-got" during the incident. His wallet had been stolen and an article of jewelry. The police asked for the victim's name and then showed the victim one of his credit cards. The victim looked in the back of the squad car and saw the assailant in the back seat of the car.

POLITICS

(Continued from previous page)

Willie Brown reported spending \$2.9 million (most of it to help Dems in other districts) while his GOP opponent Tom Crary spent a mere \$896. • Gay political activists in San Diego now tell me that Republican Roger Hedgecock has become their favorite in that city's upcoming March 15 mayoral race. If, as is expected, no one received 50% of the vote, a May 3 run-off will be held.

One of the world's, and certainly America's, finest playwrights, Tennessee Williams died last week in New York. I knew Williams, as well as Williams' late lover Frank, for many years while living in New York. I once visited the playwright in his Key West home where he delighted in cooking, particularly lobster, for his guests, and although I have not seen him in recent years, I had become an incurable Williams fan. Upon hearing of Williams' death, Marlon Brando, who got his first Broadway starring role in



Roger Hedgecock, San Diego's pro-Gay mayoral candidate.

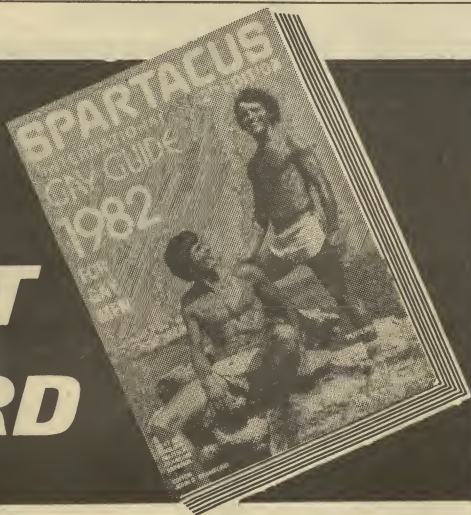
Williams' Cat on A Hot Tin Roof, told a reporter that "Tennessee is gone — a lonely genius who I loved very much" while another talent brought to stardom by Williams' work, Kim Stanley, told a memorial service in New York that "a lonely star has gone and will never be replaced."

W. Friday



Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians (ALGA) banqueted last weekend at the Far East Restaurant in Chinatown: (l. to r.) Janet Tom, Bill Matsumoto, Stanley Ng, and dinner chairman Hoover Lee. (Photo: Rink)

THE LAST WORD



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OAKLAND

The High, Long and Wide of It

NEZ PAS

CALLITHUMP, ROUND III (A Floating Nose?)

Goodness, gracious! Just a little bit of rain last week really changed the composition of the Oakland Float Committee meeting! Nine believers (including two new people) managed to attend. Several items were discussed, cussed, and hashed around. It was decided that because of all the political bureaucracy from our fair city hall (it seems that the good mayor doesn't believe that there is a Gay community within his city limits!) the idea of putting Oakland's trademark, the Oak Tree, on our buttons would be abandoned. Instead, there will just be wording that says "Oakland Float '83." The same wording will be on the T-shirts. Since the Oakland Pom Pons tentatively decided that their colors for this year would be purple and pink... the buttons and T-shirts will reflect a color coordination.

Also, since the powers that control parades and such in San Francisco have as yet not fully

decided on all the new restrictions pertaining to parades, everything seems to be somewhat up in the air as to just how high, long, wide, etc., etc., each float can be. And there was some indication that no people would be allowed to ride on any float... and, perhaps no other living thing... including flowers???

The deadline for the float design is still Tuesday, March 15; however, remember there is a \$100 prize for the winning entry.

Additional fundraisers were discussed, and there will definitely be a "Three For Three" three day/night marathon at the Lake Lounge, Revol, and Bench & Bar, May 15, 16, 17.

And Mama Chuckles, in connection with the \$1.98 Beauty Contest, will be having a raffle. There will be only 100 tickets sold, at \$50 bucks a pop... but each ticket will be a winner! Cash prizes include \$50, \$100, \$150... all the way up to \$500. Every purchaser's name will be posted in numerical order, and

prizes listed as they are won. This is the kind of raffle where you want to be the last ticket drawn. Along with this, tickets will be given for each drink sold, which will be good for another drawing. More details and information given as available, but it will be held at the Lake Lounge in May.

★ ★ ★

ADMONITIONS! (A Forgetting Nose?)

The Oakland Pom Pons will make an appearance at Kezar Pavilion this Saturday evening, to do some routines for a basketball game between the Cal Berkeley team and the Gay Games team. Tickets for the game are \$8.

The Investiture of King and Queen of Hearts V. Weiner and Cathy, will be this Sunday, March 6, at Ollie's Radclyffe Hall. The theme of the evening is *The Return of Tradition*, and protocol is from 6 to 7 PM, with the Investiture starting at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$5 advance; \$7 at the door. Entertainment provided by Bobbie Callioat, Nova Lei, Sandy Love Lace (S.F.), Manuel Oliver, and past Kings and Queens of Hearts. MC's for the evening will be Gene Bettis and Joanna Caron. I understand there will be a dinner menu available.

Mr. & Miss Gay Alameda County will be doing a benefit for KS at the Railway Express in San Francisco on Sunday, March 13. Donations will be \$2.

The next Oakland Float Committee meeting will be at the Lake Merritt Hotel, 8 PM, on Wednesday, March 16.

Mr. and Miss Gay of Alameda County will also be having a bingo party that night, to benefit the Oakland Pom Pons. It will also be at the Lake Merritt Hotel, so perhaps both factions can combine into a fun and worthwhile evening!

The very next night, King of Hearts III, Don, will present a function at Big Mama's in Hayward. There will be a 50 cent-per-ticket raffle with lots of prizes, a \$2 buffet, and entertainment by Lady Nova, King of Hearts V, Dean, and Queen of Hearts V, Cathy.

Last weekend's two happenings — Hayward Raw Raws 50/50 raffle and party at Big Mama's, and Bench & Bar's Mardi Gras Party were both successful and entertaining. Boy, but it's difficult keeping up with all these events!

Berry's remodeling/redecorating is completed... and their stage is really great. They plan on having many shows presented there throughout the year.

No mumblings... or even murmurings regarding Lou Greene's "challenge" to Bob Ross over their respective chilis! Is silence an indication of defeat?

If only I could be respected without having to be respectable... I would really smile a lot more! Til next week, you try your smile.

Love,

Nez

★ ★ ★



In a move that indicates that "domestic partner" legislation may soon be proposed in Berkeley, several elected Berkeley city officials attended a public forum on benefits for domestic partners sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

The forum, which drew a crowd of about 100, was held on February 13 at the Julia Morgan Theatre in Berkeley. Panelists included SF Supervisor Harry Britt, attorney Matt Coles (who drafted much of the domestic partner legislation recently vetoed by Mayor Feinstein) and noted lesbian activist Kerry Woodward. Discussion focused on the need for legislation to extend benefits to "domestic partners" of Berkeley city employees that are now available only to employees' spouses. Also discussed were the problems encountered when such legislation was introduced in San Francisco.

Among those in the audience were Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport, City Councilmember Wesley Hester, and three of the five School Board members: Steve Lustig, Ethel Manheimer, and Barbara Lubin. School Board President Lustig said after the forum: "The question isn't whether domestic partner legislation will be proposed for Berkeley, but what shape it will take."

Candidates Forum

On Sunday, March 13, at 7p.m., the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club will be holding an Oakland Candidates Forum at the Lakeview School, 746 Grand Ave., Oakland. Candidates for City Council, School Board, and Peralta College Board will present their views and address issues of concern to the Gay community.

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club works within

the Democratic Party and elsewhere to bring the issue of Lesbian and gay rights to the forefront of political campaigns, and lobbies for legislation which advances and upholds the rights of gay men and lesbians

The Oakland Candidates Forum is free and open to all interested members of the community. Wheelchair access. Call 849-3983 for information. ■

BWMT Chapter in East Bay

After several months of informal discussions among interested persons, a chapter of Black & White Men Together (BWMT) was officially formed in the East Bay on February 2, 1983.

Elected to interim six months terms of office were Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Chairperson; Billy Jones, Vice-Chairperson; Ron Nelson, Secretary-Historian; and Bob Hannerman, Treasurer.

Commenting upon the chapter's formation, Chairperson Rakestraw stated, "I'm impressed by the character, quality and diversity of the potential membership. I pledge to effectively establish the program and the organizational structure the chapter desires." He further commented that the name BWMT-EB is "symbolic; full membership is open to men of any ethnicity." More information is available at 832-8160 or 763-7264. ■



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SAN JOSE: FROM THE ROSEGARDEN

One Player Pegged

The *San Jose Mercury* and the *San Jose News* discovered Stockton Avenue last week. Gave us front-page treatment, too. Of course we've known it was there all along, but two pages of write-up can't do any harm.

Or can it?

The last time the *Mercury News* "discovered" Gays in San Jose, some crazy decided to firebomb cars parked in the Watergarden parking lot and at a couple of places along Stockton Ave.

That was a couple of years ago, though, so maybe some people have wised up enough to be able to tolerate the fact that they don't have a monopoly on the "right" way to live.

Wisdom has a funny way of bypassing some people, though. Age plays no important role, as was borne out by a phone call received by that hot little bartender Chris at Renegades Friday afternoon.

"Some old lady just called and said 'Hello you filthy young man!', then hung up on me," he reported to me while I was there having lunch. Chris was taking it with his usual big smile.

Boot Rack and Main Street owner Jack Britton and Boot Rack manager Randy Johnson were at the same table with me, and Jack quipped that "It was probably his Mother," and someone else hollered across the bar that she must have been somebody "who knows Chris pretty well because she really had him pegged." Even Chris didn't deny that she had had him pegged.

Jack had something else on his mind during lunch, too. The SJPD notified him that Main Street's Monday night Bingo games had to stop. Period.

"I'm going to have to come up with something else. I wonder if a game of 'Old Maid'

would work," he said with that smile.

Palo Alto's Gay community, the Guardian Angels and the local politicians are teaming up for a Crime Prevention Rally on March 6. The lower end of University Avenue (1900 block) that fronts Palo Alto's Whiskey Gulch Saloon, the Garden and the Bachelor's Quarters (a bathhouse) is to be closed off to traffic to allow the planned activities to happen. Besides speakers, there'll be food, dancing to a live band and self-defense techniques demonstrated by the Guardian Angels.

Steven Lakey cooked up about fifty N.Y. steak dinners at Toyon Wednesday night and sold them at ten bucks a shot to drum up a little better than \$150 profit that he and Toyon gave to Empress Darlene and Emperor Dennis to help them meet some of their upcoming coronation extravaganza costs.

The coronation, slated for July, will not be held on a Dude Ranch in Morgan Hill after all. That plan fell through, so plan "B" is now in effect. Sunnyvale is the new location.

Is *Time Magazine* serious? In their story covering HRH E II's visit, they list Cupertino as "the unofficial capital of Silicon Valley."

Every city in the Valley claims that title. The only one that can even begin to back that claim with political validity is San Jose, with its position as county seat, but I'd be willing to bet that the City of Sunnyvale would disagree with *Time* if none of the other cities down here were willing to speak up for the title.

TOM ROGERS

★ ★ ★

Ed Sebesta, founder of the Lesbian & Gay Associated Engineers and Scientists (LGAES), is pushing for the San Jose group to participate in the Gay Pride Day Rally being held here next June. I'm sure the Rally committee (which is planning a full session March 1 of all the sub-committees involved) will be delighted.

Sebesta also reported that as a result of my conversation with Sen. Cranston's Washington, D.C., office a couple of weeks ago, a Cranston aide called him and explained progress on

halting discriminatory DOE practices in issuing security clearances. (My call was a follow-up to a letter Sebesta had written to Cranston which, according to Sebesta, had drawn no response from the Senator). Sebesta's a little happier.

★ ★ ★

One of my fave raves, San Josean Bill Knox, tells me that he's beginning to think seriously about moving back to home turf, Delaware. "I'm getting bored with the Urban Gay scene," he told me over suds at the Main Street Thursday night.

"I think I'll get one of those farms with a Cape Cod style house on it, wear nothing but tweeds and corduroys and become the Southern gentleman that I was raised to be," he said with his best FSLOG smile. (That's Fine Southern Ladies of Quality).

Hopefully, someone will come along to dissuade him from building a Delawarean "Hermitage."

★ ★ ★

Go hug your pet and have a great week.

Capitol Hoedown

The Capitol City Squares, the Sacramento based Gay square dance club, is planning their third annual Hoe Down on Saturday, March 12, at the Parking Lot, 2804 Auburn Blvd. in Sacramento from 7-11 p.m. Included in the \$2.50 advance ticket sale is a western style dinner, live square dance calling by Dave "Happy" New Year, performances by the Barbary Coast Cloggers, and beginners lessons in both square and line dancing. The Capitol City Squares have been dancing 18 months and have approximately 50 active

Stanislaus Dance

The Stanislaus Gay Alliance will hold a dance and buffet on Saturday, March 26, from 8 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at the Eagles Hall, 126 Camellia Way, in Modesto.

members. Some members have performed at the Reno Gay Rodeo and throughout the Sacramento and Bay Areas, with weekly dances held at the Parking Lot each Tuesday evening at 7:00. A new beginning square dance class is scheduled to begin shortly after the Hoedown and anyone who is interested in joining is encouraged to contact a

Tickets are available for \$5 for nonmembers, \$3.50 for members with cards. Info: call Stanislaus Gay Alliance (209) 526-0413 or send check or money order to S.G.A., P.O. Box 5163, Modesto, CA 95352 by March 17 for tickets.

club member for more information.

Buy your tickets early as last year's event was a sell-out success. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$3. Grab your favorite partner, hat and boots and come on out for some good old fashioned western fun!!!

San Francisco Calendar

Comedy and Song

Robin Harrison is the vocal half, and Pam Hofsass the piano half of Harrison and Hofsass. The team presents cabaret style comedy and song, with liberally adapted popular songs a specialty. They appear at the Artemis Cafe at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 5; \$3.50 cover.

AIDS Talk

Bobbi Campbell, R.N., and Mark Feldman, two Gay men with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), will discuss their experiences with this disease on *The Gay Life*, KSN, 95 FM, Sunday, March 6, 6a.m.

Cattle Dancing

The Rainbow Cattle Company has announced new band schedules, with live music on the first and third Sundays of each month. The Billy Band will play March 6 at 5 p.m., and Mitch Woods and His Rocket 88's will play March 20.

Write On

A Writer's Workshop for Gay men, focusing on the special needs, support, and critical feedback entailed meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Small Press Traffic Bookstore, 3841-B 24th Street. The ongoing workshop is free, and led by author Robert Gluck. Gluck's latest book is the recently published *Elements of a Coffee Service*. Call 285-8394 for information.

I Remember I Remember

"Memories of Gertrude and Alice" will be the title of Samuel Steward's speech when he addresses the Gay Academic Union at its next regular meeting on March 13. Steward, the author of *Dear Sammy and Chapters From an Autobiography*, was a personal friend of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas and visited them at their home in Paris a number of times before World War II. He corresponded with them regularly from 1933 until their deaths, and after Stein's death visited Toklas every Christmas from 1950 to 1967.

The GAU meets at 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of every month during the academic year at 1668 Bush Street (corner of Gough). Visitors and guests are welcome to attend but are asked for a one-dollar donation. Light refreshments will be served after the speech, question session, and discussion.

Sex Information Volunteers Needed

San Francisco Sex Information's telephone service needs volunteers now. You can apply for their training program by calling 665-7300 between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Sex Information (SFSI) provides free telephone information and referrals to all ages and lifestyles about all aspects of human sexuality. For over ten years SFSI has provided accurate and nonjudgmental service based on each volunteer being screened, getting 48 hours of quality training, and having constant supervision. They especially welcome women and ethnic and sexual minorities to apply.

Movie Madness

Here comes Reel Spoofs: Movies That Poke Fun at other Movies, with showings at the Roxie Theatre on Tuesday, March 8 and Saturday, March 12.

Reel Spoofs pays comic tribute (or satiric revenge) to Hollywood's recent epic events and past venerable classics. Starring everyone's favorite Porklips Now, a scathing satire of Apocalypse Now, Coppola's auteur masterpiece; *Illegal Alien*, Alien's alias; *Murder In A Mist*, an intriguing switch in the film noir formula; *Spanish Peanuts*, a nutty look at Busby Berkeley's dance extravaganzas and many other selected "creme de la cremes."

An alternative to the usual Hollywood fare, Reel Spoofs is an independent showcase of hilarious satire, featuring the work of many of the Bay Area's best filmmakers. A definite must for Hollywood lovers and haters alike.

Sex Information needs more volunteers now, especially for the afternoons when many students call in. Help us assist people to make informed choices about their sexuality, and to know where to go for further help.

Remember, sexual ignorance is not bliss.

Patrick Twirlers

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Marching Band and Twirling Corps will take part in the Bay Area St. Patrick's Day Unity Parade on March 12 in Oakland. Details from the GGPA Office, 864-0326.

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—Dr. James Curran, Center for Disease Control

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in response to the outbreak in the Gay community of immune deficient diseases. The Foundation is dedicated to conducting or supporting efforts which accomplish the following:

■ **BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH**
Studying the spread of these diseases and bringing new research techniques to bear to investigate the factors which may be contributing to these diseases.

■ **PATIENT SERVICES**
Assuring that adequate financial resources are available for necessary diagnosis and treatment.

■ **PATIENT SUPPORT**
Coordinating appropriate referrals or provision of services for emotional and psychological support for Kaposi's and Pneumocystis patients.

■ **COMMUNITY EDUCATION**
Educating the community at large in prevention and detection of these diseases.

The Foundation works closely with other organizations and agencies in the Bay Area and around the country which are also making contributions to the study and elimination of these diseases which are also seeking to meet the needs of affected patients.

PLEASE GIVE TODAY! We need your participation and we need your financial support. —Marcus A. Conant, M.D., President

Your regular United Way donation can be channeled to The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation by requesting a Donor Option Card and writing in Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation.

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I'd like to volunteer to help. Please contact me. Please make your check payable to: The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation, and return it with this form to 470 Castro Street, No. 207, Box 3390, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

TAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN

STAGE

Laugh Attack has Bay Area Circled

New Plays Force Surrender on Giggling Gays

by John F. Karr

Two new Gay comedies opening in three days — one at Theatre Rhino and one at the Berkeley Rep — had me feeling like a modern day General Custer, surrounded and going down without hope of rescue from either mounted men or merciful cast members. The cause of my near downfall, unlike Custer's, wasn't quilled arrows but barbed gags. There's only so many of 'em a fellow can get stuck with, even a fag with a giddy quotient as high as mine. I had visions of giggling myself into a quivering puddle of Crisco on the floor as the laughs closed in from two sides of the Bay, and I was glad there was no Gay theatre company in Marin to cut off escape over the Golden Gate Bridge. Now that I've rested a few days my advice would be not to flee for Sausalito, but to rush right onto the impaling pens of playwrights Victor Bumbalo and Christopher Durang. There's a lot of duller impalings occurring nightly, so you might as well stick yourself with a laugh that's so good it hurts.

Victor Bumbalo's one-act play *American Coffee* was given its world premiere in a Theatre Rhinoceros production several seasons ago. Act Two, *The Shangri-La Motor Inn*, was written later and continues the action of the earlier one-act but with a different set of characters. Together they are called *Niagara Falls*. They were produced with notable success at The Glines in New York; subsequent productions followed in Boston, Phoenix, and at a straight theatre in Chicago, where the author nearly withdrew the production when he saw the flaming portrayal assigned to the one Gay character in the play.

American Coffee recreates with hysterical exactness the kitchen, the lives, the sentiments of a blue-collar Italian family. It's *Accordion on the Roof*. The husband and wife have risen before everyone else on their daughter's wedding day to handle an explosive situation. Their Gay son has returned home uninvited for the wedding and has even brought his lover. With more than a touch of Jewish, the Italian family milieu is recreated and an Archie Bunker mentality set forth in several lines. Says the husband, "If he talks about — It — I'll kill him," and the wife bemoans, "We've got one in our family for the rest of our entire lives," before begging a once

insulted and now deceased Gay friend to remove the Curse of Homosexuality they're sure he has put on their son for revenge. They may be Italian, and New Yorkers too, but they're Redneck in toto.

"He's my son; I love him," says the wife. "I just wish I liked who he is." Good Catholic that she is, every other second she prays — plea bargains — for the wedding's smooth running. But since it's been established years ago that you cannot petition the Lord with prayer, we know just how askew the wedding is going to go.

We never see the wedding, however, and we never meet the son (or his lover, frustrating since he's repeatedly described as the hunkiest blonde Adonis yet to live). This lack of complications allows the parents to get wired and lunatic on early morning coffee as they discuss — as each of our parents must have done — "It."

It's a complete lesson in a blighted view of homos. Bumbalo must have secretly taped parents across the country. They discuss the different types of queers, their activities and lifestyle, their unusual sex practices, much the same way people always talk about people who are foreign to them. The one-liners are continuous. Bumbalo outdoes Neil Simon with an ability

to make this succession of screamers organic, with logical continuity and colloquial patterns.

Naturally, this family's cookie jar is a ceramic "Mammy." A clever piece of set dressing? Or a tip-off of the play's predictable content? Even while laughing at the reality of the situation and the zing of the jokes, I grew restless with the play. In this Archie Bunker territory most of our enjoyment comes from our superiority towards these people. For a Gay audience they are an easy target.

If you like the stupidity and tyranny of A. Bunker, *American Coffee* will be the funniest show you've seen in ages. But I pictured a Black audience, and wondered whether they'd be entertained by a well-written

**Pitfalls of Life in the Gay Lane:
"You're getting sex mixed up with
love and love mixed up with life."
Why not?**

play in which members of the Klan get juiced up and made nigger jokes. It made me glum. Perhaps I'm too close to the discomfort and prejudice that kills communication and love between people to find jokes about it, no matter how funny, entertaining. I kept waiting for this exposition to end with the son's entrance. Then there'd be a confrontation, a dialogue which might allow for growth and change. But the son never enters, and without him what we have is condescension with laughs.

I am not, however, condemning the play. It's a finely written work. The author has stated he wrote it to deal with Straight attitudes towards Gays, and I think the play's true audience is at the Eureka Theatre, or the One Act Theatre Company where it would be dynamic propaganda. A Straight audience would howl and die with recognition. I suspect that most Gays are past this.

But theatre doesn't always have to be propaganda, and placed before a Gay audience this light comedy, with its humanist, feminist touch, is the



Michael DiMartini (center) plays "Dear Abby" for newlyweds Jeff Mason and Ann Houle in the comic and touching second half of *NIAGARA FALLS*. (Photo: Rink)

best written, funniest, and most theatrically valid comedy that Rhino has done. The author can be proud of his work, and Theatre Rhinoceros proud of the production. With his hang-dog face, Larry Friedlander is perfectly doleful as the husband, and Helene O'Connor vacillates between motherly love and shrill frenzy with facility. J. Kevin Hanlon's direction is the most assured he's presented, the exaggerations wisely left unexaggerated by excess blocking. His set design is similarly attractive and creative.

quickly casts the desk clerk as counselor. Although worldlier than her parents, she suffers several common delusions about Gays herself. "When you marry," she reveals, "you don't marry a person; you marry a life." She wants the romance and fantasy that seem to be the birthright of Gays — love in the sunset, sex on the beach, a life of delightful abandon. It's true Gays do have a high level of fantasy fulfillment, but the girl does not see this Gay working a second job as a night clerk to make enough money to pay his gym fees or to take a vacation to Gay Shangri-La, the one Theatre Rhino audiences know as the city where reality and fantasy mix — San Francisco.

In dialogue of the most perceptive nature, yet still couched in the comic means that he's a master of, Bumbalo presents through the bride fantasies (mis-



J. Kevin Hanlon, who has provided excellent sets and direction for *NIAGARA FALLS*.

conceptions) of Gay life, and through the clerk, the contingent realities. This unsophisticated and Gay boy counsels the newlyweds back into each other's arms, revealing sweet, sad, and funny truths about Gay and Straight life. "You're getting sex mixed up with love and love mixed up with life."

What they mutually find out is simple. All God's chillun got problems. If there's a La Mancha-ish dreaming of im-

(Continued on next page)



Larry Friedlander and Helene O'Connor express every ridiculous stereotype of Gays as they hilariously try to adjust to the one in their own family, their son, in the Theatre Rhinoceros production of *NIAGARA FALLS*. (Photo: Rink)

Act Two, *The Shangri-La Motor Inn*, includes the meeting between Gay and Straight whose absence eviscerated Act One. The wedding with its expected comic horrors is past, and the happy couple is blissed-out in the Shangri-La of their wedding night at a suitably tacky (vinyl couches in the lobby) hotel. But wait — the bride is alone in the lobby and breaks into tears. She can't handle the wedding night. Much comedy is centered on the reasons why ("I'm sorry I wanted you to touch it," her contrite husband offers), but her discomfort hardly lies with sex. Turns out she's actually rather horny. But she's had a vision of the re-creation of her parents' dead life she's just committed herself to and is scared at the expansive waste in front of her. She turns for comfort to the night clerk, who just happens to be Gay. How'd she know he was Gay, he inquires after giving her a consoling hug. She's been around the block, even in Utica, New York. "Maybe it was your strong, disinterested arms," she replies.

The bride adores Gays and

Laugh Attack

(Continued from previous page)

possible dreams fluttering around the conclusion, it's also human and all too real. The truth which the wife confronts is that romance and wonder are rarely a given in any life, and that she'll have to create her own. Perhaps Gays, functioning outside of most conventions, have a head start towards realizing these escapist delights. Like Irene Molloy in *The Matchmaker*, the wife realizes the world is full of wonderful things. Gays may have more adventures than others, and can be an example (it's so Thornton Wilder) that life can be an adventure, if you make it one.

Ann Houle more than fulfills the promise she showed as the pregnant bride in *The Enclave* with a rich, many-nuanced portrayal of another bride. Come to think of it, she'd be a splendid Irene Molloy; she's strong, vulnerable; the finest actress I've seen at Rhino. Michael DiMar-

tini as the desk clerk and Jeff Mason as the well-meaning groom also excel. If I didn't stress the abundant comedy of this half of *Niagara Falls* it's because I was touched by the people and the wisdom author Bumbalo has created so well.

* * *

It could be argued that *Beyond Therapy* is not a "Gay" play. With a Gay character pivotal to the plot, his presence and actions precipitating both the play's rising action and climax, I'd call it one. I have. Next point.

The action of *Niagara Falls*, while compacted and heightened, is basically real. *Beyond Therapy* is thoroughly grounded in all our lives (I could hear beads being read and dropped by every member of the audience, regardless of gender and sexual persuasion) yet is written to be played on the Marx Broth-



Prudence (Judith Marx) is confounded to find her boyfriend Bruce (Charles Dean, L.) has his own boyfriend, Bob (Brian Thompson) in the crazy Berkeley Rep production of *BEYOND THERAPY*. (Photo: K. Friedman)

ers lunatic fringe. That it is, by an admirable company at the Berkeley Rep.

I don't know if author Christopher Durang is Gay. It doesn't matter. He's had great success recently, authoring *A History of the American Film*, the current Broadway success *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, and others, which include a co-author credit on the gaily titled *When Dinah Shore Ruled The Earth*. His is a gleefully savage wit, and what he does with the Me Generation, everybody's sexuality and therapists and therapy is frightfully fancy and scabrously funny. What a great chance this is for Gay theatre-goers to discover the Berkeley Rep. Yes, it sounds like it's in Siberia. I mean, who goes to Berkeley? Don't they have riots and People's Parks there? But the theatre is a half-block from the Berkeley BART stop, which makes it easier to get to than some places we frequent on our own side of the water.

Beyond Therapy starts with two people meeting through a classified ad. They don't hit it off. Bruce's second line is "I hope I'm not too macho for you," followed immediately by "You have lovely breasts." Prudence feels courtesy-bound to answer. "I love the smell of the Brut you're wearing," she says.

"Thank you. My male lover Bob gave it to me."

Off and running, a minute into the play.

"I swing both ways. Do you?"

"I don't know. I've always had the lights out."

"Have I caused you discomfort?"

"No. It's just that I hate Gays."

The relationship is not going to work. Bruce works at being open. He can even cry in front of people — and does. Prudence is as repressed an anal number as she can be, and Durang has set their joustings like Neil Simon suddenly gone hip. If Tom Wolfe could write plays, this would probably be it. The lunatic fringe has never been so close in.

Bruce and Prudence consult their therapists in between meetings. Hers is a premature ejaculator who sleeps with his clients to gain control. His is a fright wig who treats adulthood as if it were a demented kindergarten class. Together the therapists make the petunia patch of life into a snake pit but their patients



Shirley Jac Wagner gets set for another sugar attack as a wildly crazy therapist in *BEYOND THERAPY*. (Photo: K. Friedman)

are crippled without them.

Bruce proposes to Prudence. "We can look into the abyss together." Our fear of loneliness, our inability to communicate or have relationships is the abyss, and *Beyond Therapy* skitters over this chasm like an untied balloon careening flatulently, erratically overhead.

Unlike *American Coffee*, the material of *Beyond Therapy* is allowed to expand beyond sketch level by the inclusion of other characters, most specifically Bob, the Gay lover. I took exception to the amount of flame in this portrayal. Bruce and Prudence, though exaggerated, are to be taken as real. In comparison, Bob's queenly routine is caricature. Bruce says he needs the stability of a woman, an excuse rendered believable by Bob's overplayed instability. If Bob was more — you'll pardon the expression — "normal," the joke would be funny.

Whatever, audience reaction and laughter were strong for Bob, and for an astounding scene in which the lady therapist has an uncontrollable homophobic attack which can only be halted by massive doses of white sugar. Shirley Jac Wagner as this therapist is possessed. A certified loony in the tradition of Madame Arcati, she's a cross between Bea Lillie, Marion Lorne, and Carol Channing gone to Mars on crystal meth. She must have to wear a disguise to walk

the streets.

Beyond Therapy is a contemporary version of *Oh Dad, Poor Dad and Luv*, its anarchy scoring point after point. The playwright draws the moral, after all the characters come together for a climax that would be insane if only it weren't so hysterically real. It's Chekhov, says Durang. We call his plays tragedies, but he called them comedies. And that's life, too; "if you approach psychological suffering with the right frame of mind you find humor in it."

Durang has multitudes of "right" frames of mind — I've never suffered in such a funny fashion.

Judith Marx, resident Berkeley Rep star, is Barbie Doll unreal, patently false, and continually compelling as Prudence. Charles Dean plays Bruce with subtle elan, and David Booth and Brian Thompson as Bruce's therapist and lover complete Joy Carlin's tightly directed cast.

If I ran Theatre Rhino I'd do this one right away. Meantime, drive, swim, or tube yourself to this razzle-dazzle jest.

J. F. Karr

Niagara Falls
Theatre Rhinoceros
Through April 2; 552-4100

Beyond Therapy
Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Through March 20; 845-4700

Daughters of Conflict

by Sue Zemel

To fortify yourself for the Queen's impending visit to San Francisco, I suggest catching a performance of *The Daughters of Erin*, Lilith's latest production at Fort Mason.

The historic play, directed by Gillian Shaw, is about a revolutionary group of women at the turn of the century, who struggled for Irish nationalism, suffrage, worker's and women's rights. They formed the Daughters of Erin, a travelling feminist dramatic troupe, which promoted Irish culture and worked on several fronts against British presence in Ireland. Among the Daughters were Maud Gonne, a renowned actress, political rebel, and lover of poet William Yeats, Hannah Sheehy Skeffington, a noted suffragist and pacifist, Helena Molony, founder of the Women's Workers Union; Eva Gore-Booth, a poet and labor organizer; and Esther Roper, founder of the Manchester Women Worker's Union.

In the first act of the play, co-written by Carolyn Meyers and Elizabeth Roden, Constance de Markievicz, an aristocrat and actress who became one of the leaders of the nationalistic movement and a legendary fighter for women's and worker's rights, meets the Daughters. Moved by their vision and inspired by their work, she decides to leave the "castle crowd" to join the troupe.

The play chronicles the events leading up to and following the 1916 Easter Uprising, an armed rebellion against the British, which was a militaristic failure, but a symbolic victory that awakened an Irish national identity. The Daughters were actively involved in the uprising, and Constance was imprisoned for her role in the rebellion. One of two rebels spared execution, de Markievicz was sent to prison four additional times for her political activities. Using the slogan "Put her in to get her out," the Daughters launched a successful campaign to elect de Markievicz to the British Parliament.

She later became the first Minister of Labor in the Dail, the first independent Irish government.

While the play is rich in historic content, it lacks the dramatic tension that makes for exciting theatre. The lives of these activist women were suffused by conflict, yet there are few scenes in the play that reflect this fact. The dialogue is often flat, and character development is sacrificed to the play's narrative quality.

Irish revolutionary songs, considered seditious and banned by the British, are performed by the Daughters throughout the play. The songs help considerably to break up some of the monotony, and overall add a lively dimension to the performance. The set, designed by Peggy McDonald and the costumes, by Roberta Yuen, also enhance the production.

While the actresses in the

company are all competent, with the exception of Joan Mankin as Eva Gore-Booth, no one particularly shined on-stage. I was disappointed by Laura Ollstein's performance as Constance de Markievicz, which lacked in range and depth.

Despite its shortcomings, I enjoyed *The Daughters of Erin*, and left the theatre wanting to know more about the lives of this inspiring group of women.

S. Zemel

Daughters of Erin
Lilith at People's Theatre
through March 20; 776-8999
Julia Morgan Theatre
March 24-April 3; 548-7234



DAUGHTERS OF ERIN, a true story of women who fought for Ireland's independence, with (l. to r.) Roxanne Rogers as Esther, Katherine Conklin as Hanna, and Joan Mankin as Eva. (Photo: A. Nomura)

Mime Troupe

The S.F. Mime Troupe's production of *Uprising at Fuenteovejuna* will not be performed in the parks this summer as the *B.A.R.* reported last week. The play will be performed at the Victoria Theatre (863-7576) until March 13. The Mime Troupe will present an original play in the parks, as is the customary, merry habit.

GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGayWHENGayWHY

Dancing Needs

When Jeff Friedman danced on a double-bill with Joe Goode last summer, the *B.A.R.* interviewed the dancers. Their work expressed its Gay content on markedly different levels, Goode's in subject matter and Friedman's in the abstract. It was unusual, though, for dancers to be maintaining and cultivating ties to the Gay community. When Friedman announced performances of new works, the *B.A.R.* asked him what he was up to, and found out not only what he was preparing, but wherefrom and why as well.

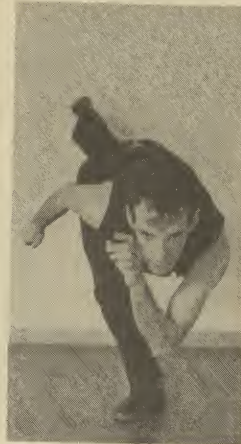
"I had several years of ballet training as a child, but then stopped for ten years," Friedman said. "I was studying architecture at Cornell University, and took up dancing again to fulfill my Phys. Ed. requirement. My teacher was inspirational, and that propelled me to further work."

"I met Andy deGroat, joined his core group and travelled with him, eventually to New York. I danced freelance with modern and jazz groups, took up ballet again, and then met Twyla Tharp. She gave me a scholarship to dance with her company

and learn her repertory.

"I was lucky to find something that suited me so well. The complex spatial arrangements and counting systems of deGroat were complementary to Tharp, so I was prepared."

"The watershed of my career came when Tharp chose another man to join her company. I returned to architecture school,



Dancer Jeff Friedman

Poetry Breaks

Breaking Up Is Hard To Do is not, in this instance, a song by Neil Sedaka, but an evening of songs without music, poems by five people who have experienced "breaks" and hospitalizations. The five people — three men and two women — have written poems about madness, blues, rage, and surviving institutions, which they will present in a staged reading. One of the group is Peter Tenney, a Gay man who spoke to the *B.A.R.*

"I think there is a lot of unexpressed information about what the experience of madness is,"

said Tenney. "After leaving a halfway house recently, I looked for people who wanted to do something public about their experience, and who also wrote. In the healing period that follows a breakdown, stigma is difficult to deal with. It's an extra burden. Writing helps us to resolve the stigma. The writing and performing incite people to speak about experiences that generally get locked away."

"The parallels between carrying the stigma of a breakdown and being Gay are strong for me. Gays have to deal with stigma, and with a history of psychiatry abusing Gays. We should be aware of labels and the context they force on people. Especially

which was a good decision. I don't think I was ready. I was facile and smart, but it just wasn't the time for me."

"I didn't know if I'd still like to dance with her. I've spent five years perfecting my own aesthetic. That's why I'm creating my own works. My current performances are about needing to do what you need to do. I'm discovering the rewards of the art. I think it's beautiful dancing, for me anyway. It's very concerned and thoughtful work."

"I'm premiering a suite of dances to Debussy's 'Children's Corner,' which will be played live. It has two solos, plus a duet with Ruth Rosenberg. It's majestic, not about children, but about the clarity they can have, contrasted with the ambiguity they can also have. I'll also do an edited version of my last work, which we've titled *Stop/Watch (Re/View)*. Moya Devine will dance several of her works also."

"In the most pragmatic way this is fulfilling work. I feel like an entrepreneur. I've even printed my own photographs!"

Dance performances by Jeff Friedman and Moya Devine; Sunday 6 and Monday 7, 8:30 PM, New Performance Gallery, 17th and South Van Ness; \$5; reservations 863-9834, since historical context changes."

Tenney, a twenty-seven year old who describes himself as "an off and on activist in the restaurant workers union," has experienced two "breaks," resulting in both locked ward treatment and ward treatment. Currently he's involved in a Bachelor's of Arts program at New College, focusing on a synthesis of psychology and poetry.

"In working with ex-patients who also write we can use the medium of poetry to talk about people's breakdown experiences. The current program is an effort to communicate a human experience the five of us have gone through, and to demystify that experience. It's a much stronger starting point than psychology textbooks."

"Three of us are Gay, but the poetry is not explicitly so, despite several references by the Gay poets. The content has to do with madness and institutionalization. The material is good, neither soap-boxy nor rhetorical. We've been working on it for ten months."

Breaking Up Is Hard To Do will be presented Friday, March 4 and 11 at 8 PM at New College, 777 Valencia; 863-7729. Admission is \$2, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Consumers and providers of mental health services are particularly welcome.



Authors who will read their poetry as *BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO* (l. to r.): Leland Stoney, Trish Friedman, Peter Tenney, Karen Pearl, and Randy Johnson. (Photo: C. Gough)

Guess Who We Met at the Bookstore?

We were browsing in the Walt Whitman Bookstore, and stumbled across a paperback reprint of a childhood favorite — *The Story of Ferdinand*. Ferdinand wasn't like the other young bulls, fierce and frisky. He liked to sit and smell the flowers. His story, told by author Munro Leaf, became so famous that Walt Disney made a cartoon feature of it. Though pleased to see Ferdinand again after all these years, we wondered what he was doing in a Gay bookstore.

"Is this book here because it's about a pansy bull or because the author is Gay?" we asked the clerk.

He knew nothing about the author. "It must be the bull," he concluded.

Whatever, the sweet bull's adventures with the Banderilleros and Picadores, his



confrontation with the most famous matador in Spain and his ultimate fate make jolly reading. From an adult, Gay

viewpoint the story takes on a wistful air we hadn't noticed as children. Welcome back, Ferdinand!

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY & STEVE WARREN

The Pirates of Penzance

Piratical Prancer

With its scrumptiously gumdrop-and-jellybean sets, blatantly silly plot and exacting parody schtick, this film version of *The Pirates of Penzance* is a joyous romp.

Broad humor mixed with tuneful melodies that dance on the tongue in jaunty, pitter-patter rhythms are the allure of any Gilbert & Sullivan operetta. What Joseph Papp and crew have done is spruce them up to a modern rockish pace without surrendering the intent of the original.

Kevin Kline is sexsational as the virile yet impish and klutzy Pirate King; the rest of the cast is merely sensational. Dimpled Linda Ronstadt warbles with surprising ease as the ever virtuous Mabel; George Rose, closest in style to untampered G&S, stops the show with his tongue-twisting trills about the "very model of a modern major-general;" Angela Lansbury is smashing in the small role of pirate nanny.

As captivating as they are it is Rex Smith who almost steals the show as Frederic, the duty-bound orphan caught between vice and virtue. With good looks so smashing that I think they are illegal and a dreamy tenor with enough pizzazz not to be Velveeta bland, he can act, dance, and be funny. In short, he's the ultimate matinee munchie.

Since this is basically a film-



Angela Lansbury joins members of the original Broadway cast for the rollicking film of *PIRATES OF PENZANCE* — Linda Ronstadt, George Rose, Rex Smith, and *SOPHIE'S CHOICE* star Kevin Kline. Critics have found the movie filled with fun, but one friend of the B.A.R. called to say its pirates and policemen filled the screen with baskets. So lowbrow!

ed stage show, director Wilford Leach keeps the camera moving nonstop, making the film seem almost too energetic in upbeat numbers and too dragged out in ballads. If you can't understand some of the lyrics, that's okay — there's a free program and libretto at the theatre. Be sure to ask

for one if you don't see them.

The Pirates of Penzance is the best adaptation of a Broadway show in a long time — a diverting, fluffy dessert of meringue topped with whipped cream.

(Castro)

M. Lasky

COMEDY

The Sharing of the Hair

by Michael Lasky

Charles Pierce has such perfect comedic timing that even when he flubs a joke it comes out funny. The "over the hill Valley Girl" is back with a lengthy yet never dull show, so jammed with gags that sometimes even he trips up just trying to get them all out in his typical breakneck speed. But then again how many performers do you know who can merely change a wig and a set of sequins and transform themselves into yet another silver screen superstar?

Barbara Stanwyck, Judy Holliday, Marilyn Monroe, Carol Channing and Marlene Dietrich all share the same hair for his opening monologue and if their material ever has that *deja-vu* gloss to it, Pierce's ad lib style keeps them somehow fresh and original.

The warmest reception is

given to Mae West with her Tweetie Bird hairdo and her Nyquil nailpolish. Marie Osmond makes an appearance, as does English Royalty. In town for the first time is Queen Elizabeth, who is more bitchy than her \$12



frock would seem to indicate. Pierce is still developing the Queen Mother with each night's performance but she's a character that allows him a chance to do political humor. Even the late Princess Grace cannot escape her majesty's barbs.

Of course old favorites like Katherine Hepburn (fresh from *On Goldie Hawn*) and Bette Davis — still fighting with Joan and Tallulah — make their obligatory appearances. While his interpretation of each seems ageless, unchangingly perfect, their jokes are fresh, as Pierce can be guaranteed to change the material each night.

This is no stand up comic but a Male Actress who happens to excel at comedy. Demonstrating his versatility is a collection of vaudevillian type songs along the way, allowing him to do some well-aimed slapstick.

Those who know Charles Pierce's style expect a steady supply of gags about fornication. It seems appropriate, then, that accompanist Joan Edgar bangs on the keys. Fortunately, this is not often and takes away no enjoyment from Pierce's otherwise seamless act.

Charles Pierce

The Plush Room
\$10 cover, 2 drink minimum.
Through March 20; 885-6800.

S&M and AIDS

The SM Institute announces a special meeting on March 5 at 416 Hayes from 3-6p.m. The meeting will explore Kaposi's Sarcoma and AIDS, to answer questions and help develop an understanding of its effects on ourselves, our families and friends. Members of the KS Foundation and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights will conduct the meeting. Cost is \$2; all are welcome. Info: 621-8165.



Les Nicklelettes will present *ANARCHY IN HIGH HEELS* Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, at 11pm at the 181 Eddy Club, 181 Eddy St. *ANARCHY IN HIGH HEELS* features eighteen original songs and comedy skits with absurd and irrelevant insight into the so-called American Dream and how it makes us happy or unhappy but always makes us crazy. Tickets are \$4 at the door.

FROM FIFTH POSITION

American Ballet Theatre — Like A New Breed

KEITH WHITE

Among the six ballets I saw during American Ballet Theatre's first week of performances at the Opera House, the most notable offering was a modern dance of Merce Cunningham, a particularly inscrutable figure in modern dance. Cunningham's *Duets* — six overlapping male-female duets drawn in six distinctive moods — is a starkly sensual work which illuminates dramatic styles of partnering from Cunningham's calm, serious focus. The difference in seeing A.B.T. perform this kind of work (as opposed to Cunningham's own company) could be detected by someone who has seen a great deal of Cunningham, but the overall look of it is typical: colored tights and leotards, unadorned except by an occasional loose skirt for the women, a well-lit black-dropped

American Ballet Theatre. But the present company, more than 50% contracted in the past two to three years, is the most attractive ballet company I have ever seen. Most of the dancers are young, which is more obvious in the girl's corps — they look like babies. The men are *built* — as well from the waist up as from the waist down, and I don't think it's entirely hereditary. Like a new breed of dancers, younger, physically impressive, well-trained and never less than competent, the young dancers of A.B.T. have the glimmer of tomorrow's stars. Some of them promise a great deal. Lawrence Pech, a broodingly Byronic new demi-soloist, was so physically impressive in the second Cunningham duet with Lise De Ribere that I began to watch him in other works — he was cast in half the ballets I saw. Possessing

well, an overextension that weakens even the sophomoric humor of it. The confused stage picture of this minor work suffered further from underrehearsal; unison passages weren't clean and the partnering gropingly insecure. Only Marianna Tcherkassky, in the "La Savane" solo, rose momentarily above the rampant mediocrity. Gelsey Kirkland, America's greatest ballerina under the age of 30, practically walked through the pas de deux with palpable boredom. It is hard to understand the management's thesis in casting a ballerina of Kirkland's stature in a throwaway curtain-raiser, while using Cynthia Harvey, an inexperienced and still lackluster dancer, in Balanchine's dazzling *Theme and Variations*.

Commissioned by Ballet Theatre in 1947 for Alicia Alonso, *Theme* has been given Santo Loquasto's new pewter-colored tutus as flat as table-tops, accentuating the angularity in Balanchine's choreography — classical largess accelerating by the minute. This ballet's luster doesn't tarnish for me in the absence of superior casting, though Cheryl Yeager and Peter Fonseca gave a much better performance on the second night.

Our desire for a star turn was provided in spades in Cynthia Gregory's performance of Robbins' *Other Dances*, a fluidly romantic tour-de-force, understated in a way that allows superb dancers to display the effortlessness of high-level artistry. Gregory exemplifies the state of a great ballerina at the height of her career, so secure that the act of dancing appears as consecutive moments of personal ecstasy. Kevin McKenzie partnered her with his usual care, a foil for Gregory but not a true complement (what male dancer is?).

A newly acquired Balanchine revival, *Symphonie Concertante*, is neoclassicism at its driest, plodding through endless tableaux of posed ballerinas while two lead dancers (Susan Jaffe and Cynthia Harvey) explore duets and pas de trois with their danseur (a stolid Ross Stretton). Polished and well-danced, it all but put me to sleep.

Antony Tudor's classic drama *Pillar of Fire* retains only one dancer, Ruth Mayer, from its previous cast. I hoped that this tale of love and morality would still move me on the basis of its structure and gesture — both of which are powerful — but the new cast, with Magali Messac, Ross Stretton, Michael Owen and Leslie Brown in the leading roles, needs more coaching so desperately that I wonder if Tudor has even looked at it.

Yet to be seen (at this writing) are new ballets by Lynn Taylor-Corbett and John McFall, Jerome Robbins' N.Y. Export: *Opus Jazz*, more Balanchine and a weekend each for *La Sylphide* and *La Bayadere*. Ballet Theatre is expensive to see, and no other ballet company leads us to expect so much. But judging from my own reactions and the talk I hear, no other company has met as great a proportion of our demands. ■



Lise De Ribere and Lawrence Pech in the second duet from Merce Cunningham's *DUETS*, the most popular company premiere of A.B.T.'s engagement. (Photo: M. Swope)

stage, and soft ballet shoes for everyone (Cunningham's dancers might do it in bare feet). Movement is seen clearly in this uncluttered format, like watching moments of dance under a microscope, each couple displaying a different energy and manner of relating, yet maintaining expressionless composure. The visual lines are no less impressive in the absence of theatrical passion; the reduction of activity to strictly kinetic denominators compels one to closely observe the plastic forms and the bodies performing it. The beauty of those bodies was astonishing.

Pretty dancers are one thing we could always depend on in

the physical stature ideal for partnering, his body easily breaks into movement with surprising speed and malleability — sensual and inner-directed in Cunningham; quick and clean in Balanchine.

Too bad the new choreographers aren't as promising. Lynn Taylor-Corbett last year set *Great Galloping Gottschalk* on A.B.T., a string of dances set to tunes written by Louis Moreau Gottschalk, a 19th-century New Orleans composer who was inspired by native melodies. The ballet seems designed to be cute and charming, but Taylor-Corbett attempted to make the piece contemporary and quasi-innovative as

Two Baskets and A Ball

San Francisco's Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Dunk-Dance-Dribble & Shoot!", a benefit for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, Twirlers and Flag Corps, and for the Sisters own charitable works.

The game will pit San Francisco's Gay Olympic All-Stars versus the University of California Basketball Club of Berkeley. "We're not going to play again this year," explains Sister Missionary Position. "We don't want

to create hard feelings by winning the trophy again at our own event." Last year's Score saw the Sisters defeat the Chorus in something almost resembling basketball. "But this year, you'll see God," promises the diminutive nun.

The game will feature performances by the Chorus, the Band, The Hayward Raw Raws, the Oakland Pom Pons, the Sisters themselves and The Queen.

Following the game, the Sisters invite you to a dance at

ten o'clock with performances by the electric Jeanie Tracy and the Dreamboys, and also Tyne Mouton.

Dunk-Dance-Dribble & Shoot will be held in Kezar Pavilion, Stanyan and Waller Streets in San Francisco, Saturday, March 5, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at All American Boy, and at the Oakland Bench and Bar at \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

The Sisters ask you to wear tennis shoes and to count your blessings. ■

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SPORTS NEWS

CORNER POCKET

Shutout for Stampede — Badlands Misses by a Roll

GENE MILLER

The first two weeks of the San Francisco Pool Association's 10th season has produced one shutout and a near miss as The Badlands fashioned an opening night 15-1 rout over the Pilsner Doughboys, and the Stallion Stampede produced the third shutout in league history by smothering Peg's Pugs 16-0 at Peg's Place, February 22.

The Badlands match saw Dennis Hall, Ray Peterson, and Bill West each posting 4-0 tallies, but it was Tommy Payne's 8-ball scratch ending his second game that gave the Doughboys their lonely win. The perfectionists at Peg's were Colin Bradley, Dave Chua, Tommy Sherck, and E.Z. Team captain Gordon Bell, himself always a good bet for a 4-0 night, was an interested observer.

Each of the four Divisions is comprised of ten teams; the Stampede and the Badlands each lead their Division at 28-4 and 26-6, respectively, with the Ambush Attitudes (21-11) in 2nd behind the Stampede, and the Bear Grizzlies and DeLuxe Powergliders tied for 3rd at 19-13. Febe's Gypsies trail the Badlands by four games in Division II, and there's a three-way tie for 3rd among Peg's Amazons, the Arena Centurions, and the DeLuxe 4-Wheel Drivers, all at 18-14. Febe's Dons are leading Division III at 25-7, trailed by the Arena Phalanx (23-9) and the Bear Teddies (21-11). Division IV is the tightest, where the top three are separated by one game each — teh White Swallow Fabulous 40's at 23-9, the Arena Warriors at 22-10, and the Park Bowl Boys at 21-11. The regular

season continues on Tuesday nights through May 3.

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Hats off to Albert Arvilla of the Ambush Attitudes — the only player in the league beginning the season with eight consecutive wins.

Hot Rumor #1: This season's West Coast Challenge is scheduled for the Four Star Saloon in Los Angeles — unless Bill West succeeds with his secret plan. He's being very tight-lipped, but he evidently has plans for the Challenge that nobody else has even dreamed of. It was West who moved the Awards/Party to Trocadero Transfer (B.A.R., 6/25/82), and he also brought advertising into the league's publications. He apparently has a vision of the WCC as one of the country's top sporting events, and is on the verge of pulling it all together.

Hot Rumor #2: Will we have a National Gay Pool Tournament? Jim Sell's working on it and believes it can happen.

Pool Info: Dial J-O-E P-O-O-L.

G.T.F. TEAM TENNIS

Weekend in Palm Springs

by Bill Reynolds

What better way to spend a cold and rainy San Francisco weekend than playing tennis and sitting by the pool in 80° Palm Springs weather. That's exactly what twenty-seven members of the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco and their guests did during the Washington birthday holiday, March 19 through 21.

The occasion was a joint tennis and recreation event hosted by GTF along with three members of the Los Angeles Sports Federation and one member from San Diego's new tennis league. Approximately thirty-five Gay players converged on Palm Springs, staying at the Gay owned and operated Palm Canyon Inn.

GTF President John Teamer

headed the San Francisco group and reports that this was a first for the club but definitely not the last. Everyone who went verified that Palm Springs and tennis do go together. Accommodations were excellent and the staff of the Palm Canyon Inn did everything possible to make the trip an enjoyable one.

The group arrived Friday, attended a dinner that night to meet other players and then headed for the C.C. Construction Company, Palm Springs' number one Gay disco. Saturday was devoted to practicing tennis — something the team has not had much of a chance to do in rainy San Francisco. Saturday night, however, was devoted to checking out other Gay spots such as Buns, The

Double Bar and local baths — mixing the night away — proving that "Tennis Players do it with Love". A doubles tournament was held Sunday with all players putting their names in a hat draw. The matches were played at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel and San Francisco's Chuck Gee teamed with San Diego's Don Alford to win in the finals over Jim Holloran and Freddie Green, both of San Francisco.

The trip ended Monday with a cocktail party hosted by John Tom at his winter desert retreat in Palm Springs.

This Palm Springs weekend was the first social activity of the season for GTF members. Later this year pot luck dinners, parties and a picnic are scheduled. These events are planned to make the organization a more fun-oriented club. According to John Teamer, all tennis and no play is not good for morale. "Relaxation such as this makes us more united as friends," added John.

Now that the group has returned to San Francisco, tennis again takes precedence. Team tennis is starting in March, the L.A. vs. San Francisco Challenge match is in April and the 3rd Annual U.S. Openly Gay tournament in May.

With so much activity going on, one just has to be corny and ask — Tennis Anyone?

Different Spokes

The Different Spokes Bicycle Club will cycle to Olema via Sir Francis Drake Highway on Sunday, March 6. The hilly, frequently steep route is lengthy; the ride will be brisk with few stops. All riders are welcome. Meet at McLaren Lodge in GG Park at 9a.m. Info: 863-7056.

An alternative Decide and Ride will meet at the same location at 10a.m. Each Saturday a Decide and Ride will leave the Freewheel Bicycle Shop at 1920 Hayes (near Ashbury) at 10a.m.

Frontrunners

The Frontrunners Sunday Fun Run for March 6 will revisit the Gay Run, with a 3 or 6 mile course. Those interested should meet at the parking lot at the south end of the Polo Field, off Middle Drive in GG Park.



Gay Tennis Federation treasurer Neil Johnson works out in sunny Palm Springs.

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A TOUCH OF BRASS

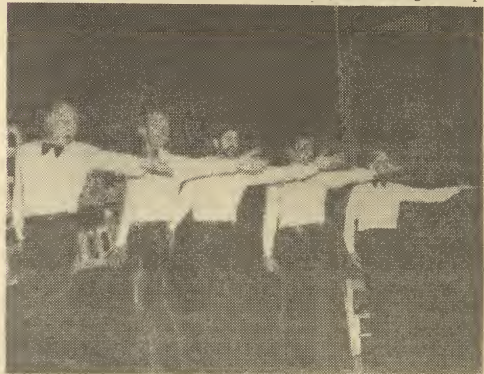
We all crowded around the television at TOP 25's David Miller and partner George's party after their top notch press conference. Our girls were going to be on Johnny Carson. Johnny prefaced their introduction by saying that The Weather Girls would be appearing on Friday night at Oasis in San Francisco. It's an especially historic moment when someone of Johnny Carson's stature plugs a Gay bar on national TV!

The exposure for them, on the

crowd was ready to riot, and did, with peals of screaming and applauding for our girls. Wonderful! Have a great trip, ladies.

Up the street at the Troc, the crowd was of equally ravenous appetite. The Moby Dick recording stars assembled up stairs in the dressing rooms. No time to talk, just a few photos, with my faithful sidekicks Rink and Aaron Michaels, while Robb Cooper, agent to all the club stars, held court at the reception desk, calm as a cuke.

The Boystown Gang were up



THE FRENCH MISTAKE, an entertainment at the Barbary Coasters show, which preceded in stages from formal wear . . .

eye of their European tour, is priceless. And you just know Oasis owner Steven Brown (who also happens to be The Tons' lawyer) was right under camera "A" with a cue card at the moment of that mention. I love pushy people. It is too bad that Columbia Records couldn't or wouldn't supply some electronics to reproduce the depth of "It's Raining Men" for the nation, or even a back-up group to let us hear those great harmonies. It was just our girls on their own with the JC Orchestra. A bit shallow.

I asked Martha when she arrived at Oasis on Friday, how she felt about her performance. She wryly replied, "I think it turned out well. Sometimes you can't get the same effect. It can be hard. You have to override it. So you get out there and just do it." With a rising excitement, she explained how it felt to be going to Europe. "The album is on the charts and we need to go out and expand our audience. It's gonna be a lot of work, but fun."

Gradually the tented pool area filled with folks of every description. Tourists from East Oakland, middle class debs from the Richmond and fairies of all sizes. The plug was working its magic, even as manager Steve Blaire arrived at 9 AM. He put it in his Philadelphia manner, "I got a phone call from Mexico City this morning, asking when they were going on and what was the nearest motel! I couldn't believe it."

By the time Randy Schiller worked out the bugs and technical worries at 12:43 the

room. Like the redwood trees, powerful and strong, Loverde stands well rooted in our rocking future.

Our friends David and George of TOP 25 have once again fulfilled their goal to give San Francisco's club scene an evening of superb sound.

Alan White reminded me, as we watched from our perch in the balcony, "Do you realize that we've seen all but two of the club acts nominated for the Cable Car Awards in one evening?" It was a hot knight.

MAD KNIGHTS

Just back from a tour of NYC and Houston with his provocative images, Mark Chester is enjoying the glow of success. We see his work all over a glossy magazine's "Bondage Issue". Mark wrote the feature as well as photographed it. Can you guess which Leather Harlequin of Oasis is featured in these photos? Chester is looking forward to a portfolio in another nationally distributed glossy, with some his tamer work coming soon in *Christopher Street*. Mark will show his work at his studio by appointment from 12 noon to 10 PM only. Call 621-6294.

Cal Yeoman (Sunset's distinguished author) breezed into town and is staying with his buddy Michael of Natoma Street (who lives conveniently near the Caldron). He has been gathering some rather incendiary material for a new play, via reading of his "Daddy" poems, published in *Sunshine Press*. How hot?

Calvin Martin was DJ at The Black Party in Las Vegas last weekend. This high tech enclave of leathermen from all over the country was hosted by Don and Steve, who provided everything from food and booze to fantasies of the wildest proportions . . . Jim Shurtleff is opening his gorgeous moderne co-ed gym on March 12. If you'd like to take a peek and sip some champagne, call for an invite at 864-1776. He'll be glad to send you one.

Speaking of mad knights, The SF Eagle's own Michael Bowman celebrated a weekend-long birthday, starting with a surprise party at home from his lover Randy. "Actually," he said, "it started at The Eagle on Thursday night, when JC gave Don of Chicago the world's biggest Scotch and water in a bar ice bucket. As the clock struck midnight JC hauled out another for Michael, Bourbon and 7, this time. By the time we closed I'm

(Continued on next page)



. . . to wear much less than formal. Look at these boys just selling those goods! (Photos: Rink)

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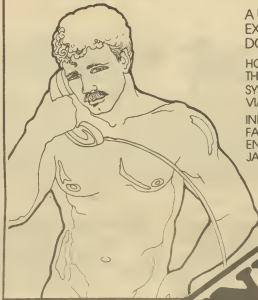
SF District Attorney's Office

For more information contact one of the attorneys listed

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The Weather Girls (formerly the Two Tons of Fun) were enthusiastically received when they brought the news to the totally packed crowd at Oasis that "It's Raining Men!" (Photo: Rink)

KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

sure the whole bar would've been drinking 'em, had the bucket supply held out." . . . Big Bird, Michael's roommate followed suit on Saturday with another surprise at Ginger's, complete with an old fashioned bar lunch for all the folks. And on and on, all weekend. It may, in fact, last 'til the Ides of March, considering that Randy's birthday is Tuesday.

With tearfilled ducts we relate that Oily Leather lawyer Kurt Oxley is leaving The City, for a post in Dallas, taking care of the company crude.

GUARDED KNIGHTS

Today a real Queen arrives, to show the SF girls how to do it right. Regrettably, Her Majesty will not be visiting the Eagle or the Brig, however, so we won't be able to show her how to have a good ol' time. . . . Mark Abramson announced the Mr. Northern California Drummer Contest at the Woods, March 25, 26, and 27. I just saw John Ponce, last year's winner. Although he'll never be average, he says he is looking forward to becoming an average citizen again. He's recently moved here from Russian River Area . . . Border Riders' Bill Wood tells me that as a result of last week's BRMC convention here, Portland member Howard Francis Harrison is gonna change his name to Howard Folsom Harrison. Might be easier to just move here, like John.

The Rainbow Deaf Society had a great time at their Beer Bust on Eagle's barren Patio, Sunday. I saw Vinnie, who is making mad last minute plans to get Roger to actually work at the GranDucks 10th annual Gay Community Awards, on the Eagle patio next Sunday. Voting at 2 PM, Beer Bust 3 - 6 PM, \$5. I'm up for "The Basket Award." But how did they know about my extensive collection of wicker?

Have cocktails with your favorite Peter at Febe's, now open at noon. CMC April 23rd

lands at California Hall . . . A tight, tan and trim Steve ran away with the cash as this week's End-Up Jock Strap Contest winner. MC Randy Johnson was assisted by Sr. Boom Boom and Diamond John. And Steve, will you please call me? I'm listed! (I think I'm in love.)

A mask of his own face at the door is becoming the trademark of Mark Kadota. His work is at the Ambush, with primitives on the ground level and erotica up stairs. It's mixed media and very absorbing. The Ambush will feature Mark's work all week.

This weekend is Investiture time at California Hall for Jim & Connie on Saturday.

Keep it together, and I'll see ya in the skins. ■

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Friday, 3/4: People's Party. The I-Beam, free with coupon (see ads), 9pm-2am, DJ Rob Kimbel; Featuring Jeanie Tracy.

The New Work of Richard Roesener. 6 Lloyd St., 5:30-9pm.

Saturday, 3/5: Larisse's Birthday. Febe's, 9pm.

Investiture of Empress Connie & Emperor Tattoo Jim. California Hall, 7pm; reserved seating \$7, balcony \$5.

Dunk-Dance-Dribble & Shoot. The Sisters and GGPA; Kezar Pavilion; \$8 adv., \$10 door; Featuring GGPA performing groups and Jeanie Tracy; DJ Chrysler.

Sunday, 3/6: Visions of the Southwest. Pueblo Indian Painting & Artifacts by Joe Lembo, 551 Gallery, 551 Haight St., Wed-Sun, 4-7pm, thru 3/27.

Gay Community Awards. SF Eagle; voting 2-4pm, awards 6pm; beer bust 3-6pm, \$5.

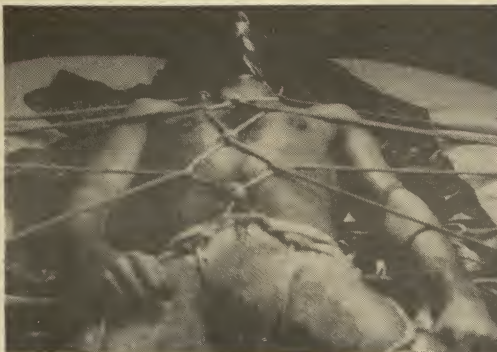
Monday, 3/7: Larisse's Birthday. Men's Room, 8pm.

Wednesday, 3/9: CMC Installation of Officers. The Stables; Chicken Feed, 6-8pm; Meeting, 8pm.

Moore Legends. Pencil illustrations of William Moore; Arena; champagne reception, 8pm.

Friday, 3/11: Snow Bound Fantasy. Force Five Tahoe Trip, \$70. Call for details: Mike Aynes, 323-1003; thru 3/13.

Febe's Reno Holiday. See Don or Tony L. for details; thru 3/13.



Who Was That Masked Man I Saw You With Last Night? You're one step ahead of the crowd if you can know the mystery man in Mark Chester's bondage photos. Karl Stewart gives a clue — when not tied down, the fellow works at Oasis. (Photo: M. Chester)

SWEETLIPS SEZ

Money in the Can

DICK WALTERS

The Mystery Beauty in last week's column was the one and only infamous Mr. Keno Clark, who had the 47 Golden Gate Club during the 40's and the Primrose Lane, which later became the Rendezvous.

The foto for this column ought to be published in the Porn Corner. It's the fabulous Mame, David Hamilton of Portland, at Mardi Gras in New Orleans . . . he does know that this is being printed and he is just thankful that Chester didn't give me some of the other pictures taken during that New Orleans weekend!

The White Swallow is having a Reno Bus trip from Friday through Sunday, April 1-3. It leaves the White Swallow at 6:30 PM on Friday and you stay at the Comstock Hotel . . . free bar, brunch, drinks and prizes . . . contact the White Swallow for more info; 775-4152.

Tonight, March 3, Kimo's is having a Queen Elizabeth Look-alike Contest from 9 PM on . . . lots of frivolity and the judging will be by some of San Francisco's well known Royalty . . . so drop in and join in the festivities.

When are the K.S. Foundation donation cans going to be picked up and replaced? I know of some places that can't get anymore monies into their cans!

Nob . . . welcome back to Geary Street, Bob.

I don't care where you go in this town you are sure to run into Empress Connie . . . she is already doing a fantastic job and it should be a fun year. When she gets her second wind, watch things really happen . . . good luck, Connie and keep up the good work.

Yes, Gilmore's still has the popular Dick Petroff on the evening shifts and he has a great following of old and YOUNG alike . . . haven't seen you for a while Dick so will have to drop up one night this week and harass you . . . no I won't bring Tacky Hacky.

Don't forget the party at the Elephant Walk Friday evening at 8 PM. Come as your favorite member of the Royal Family . . . it should be a blast.

Big Bird, would you mind letting someone else have a chance at Savages on Thursday afternoons, or do I have to change my day for going there . . . glad to see you though.

Gus and Atillio of the Red Eye Saloon's dining room are serving some of the greatest dinners in town at very reasonable prices . . . ask Howard. They have the freshest vegetables and some of the best tasting 'meats' in the



Herb Caen is always saying "Only in San Francisco." But not this time! Portland celebrity Mame wore this tasteful outfit to New Orleans. Have to give Portland more credit than we thought — things must get wild and twisted up there!



Lee-ona (second from r.) threw a fundraiser at The Pendulum and is seen here presenting a check for the proceeds to K.S. Foundation Director Rick Crane. Pendulum owner Rod Kobila (l.) looks on with Bobby Pace (center) and Berna (r.), Pendulum bartenders. (Photo: Rink)

Club Dori's Tuesday night Chicken Legs, all you can eat for \$7.50, is a great deal in these days . . . incidentally Happy Birthday (Sunday the 27th) to George Banda, Club Dori's owner . . . welcome to the 60 Club, George. Understand that the Club Dori has a wild piano player that reminds everyone of 'Vivian' of the years past . . . you remember Vivian from the Missouri Mule days; don't you, Greta Grass of the Yacht Club?

The Mayor of Geary Street, Bob Dunn, has left the Red Eye Saloon and is now doing the 6 AM till 10 AM shifts at the Hob

city and they are fast becoming very, very popular and reservations are suggested . . . closed for dinners on Sunday and Mondays but serving great Eggs Benedict for brunch Sundays ask Boom Boom Champagne Evelyn.

In closing I would like to say that we are all going to miss Tennessee Williams, a great writer and a greater person.

Don't forget to attend the investiture of the Imperial Dragon Golden Siren Court (whew!) at California Hall on Saturday, March 5; 7 PM sharp. ■



Ladies on the Loose. Or simply loose ladies? Pushy Phyllis of the GDI's, Sister Nocturnal Emissions and glamor girl Linda Lovelash in high jettie at the Barbary Coasters' Motorcycle Awards. (Photo: Rink)

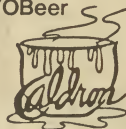
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PORN CORNER

When You Wish Upon A Star

KARR

When I was a kid the Sears-Roebuck catalog was my Wish Book, its deluge of items on thousands of pages perfect for browsing through, wishing and hoping I was buying this or that. I still have a Wish Book as an adult, but the fantasy has changed. Now I browse through the *Advocate's* Pink Section. Oh, it's only window shopping. I never buy, but

help but notice, consistent with the presence of the film industry, that the glamor names are all in Los Angeles. You'll find an occasional coverboy from a Gay glossy modeling his charms in San Francisco, but the big guns, the stars, are all in L.A. In last week's Pink Dreams alone, I spotted ads for Lee "Huge" Ryder, Fred Halsted, and (sharing the same phone!), Sky

tie San Francisco, the swishy by the Bay, to sow their careers with beauty, and then trot off to Los Angeles, where the swishes pay for play, to reap the results with bounty.

I'd like to suggest a split-season for some of these stars — six months here, six months there. And if there's any difficulty, I have a hide-a-bed in my living room for Hal and Sky. God forbid they shouldn't have a place to stay.

★ ★ ★

One lad who makes wish fulfillment easy is Leo Ford, who can be seen on a regular basis all over San Francisco. Who cares if he doesn't advertise in the Pink Dreams? He lives in the Castro, sports around town daily, and even appeared at the Gulag Archipelago — oops, I mean the Cable Car Awards — to make an award. What with appearing at such functions, he's becoming an official representative of our city — Army Maupin with a hard-on.

Leo's perineum looks as succulent as a Thanksgiving turkey.

Leo may not be pushing the goods with a Classified Ad, but he's produced his own Wish Book. Unlike the Sears catalog, with its myriad items, Leo is the only Wish in his new magazine, *All About Leo*. It's subtitled "An Erect Special," which is certainly Truth in Advertising. The people who administer the Consumer Protection Act will pat Leo on whichever head of his they reach first. That's liable to be the *tete la bas*, which usually precedes the arrival of the rest of Leo by at least half a foot.

Leo shares a direct intimacy with the still camera. His charms have always been much better represented in photographs than in movies. Perhaps he just hasn't met the right filmmaker yet. The magazines which Falcon produced on Leo were excellent, a hard-on deification. But as a matter of policy they excluded insertion shots. And insertion is Leo's middle name. In solo sections of his new magazine Leo alternately presents his rock-hard erection with boyish glee and manly lasciviousness; and always with

bravado. But it's in a duo section that he approaches glory, demonstrating his mountability with professional elan and personal ecstasy.

Although I've found many parts of Leo to dote over in other photographs, the magnificent fuck shots in this magazine expose a new part of his physique. It's so wondrous that it moves me to deliver a lesson in vocabulary. Today's new word is *Perineum*. That's the area, as the dictionary puts it, "between the anus and the posterior part of the external genitalia." Simply put, it's the space between your asshole and your balls. The word stems from the Greek *perinein*, "to empty out." Leo's doesn't look emptied out at all. His perineum is bulging, full, and looks as succulent and moist as the perfect breast on a Thanksgiving turkey. Quel zone erogenous! I'd love to get in there and chomp away, and I guess that's what Wish Books and porno mags are for. Throwing his legs in the air wasn't enough for Leo. He tucks them behind his ears, exposing every inch of palpitating perineum

and a whole lot more. Lap it up, guys; Leo's doing it all for you.

The magazine has 48 pages, lots of color, large photos and a sane layout. The price is a lot cheaper than most magazines of this type. All around, it's an unqualified success for Leo. You can find it in pornemporiums around town, or order directly from Leo: 470 Castro Street, Suite 207, Box 3248, San Francisco, CA 94114.

★ ★ ★

Although *Savages* is basically a Sporting Palace, they also show movies, and this week the bill includes *Malibu Days* and *Big Bear Nights* along with *Class of '84, Part I*. The first has a manly fuck between Nick Rogers and Giorgio Canali, a spanking administered by Jim King to two teenagers, and a whole crew of eighteen-year old fuck buddies holed up in a mountain cabin. Time on their hands; bodies, too.

The Nob Hill premieres their new live show next week, with an enticingly new-wave name, *Homovisuals*. Full report coming soon.



Leo Ford exposes the perineum that won't quit — and a lot more — in his new magazine, *ALL ABOUT LEO*. It'll put your eyes all over Leo.

it sure is nice to see what merchandise is being offered, what sizes and shapes it comes in, who's having a sale, or what's being remaindered. Every once in a while an item just screams out my name, as if it was ready-made for me alone. Then the fantasies are delicious. Much better than those worn-out material goods I used to moon over in a Sears-Roebuck catalog.

While I don't have anything against local boys, I couldn't

Dawson and Hal Drake. But *LaLa Land* has always been the city of dreams. It's frightening to think that with a little bit of money you could hire them all at the same time. Also interesting to note that, with the exception of Mr. Halsted, the best photographic work and hand-somest magazines on these fellows, securing their reputations, have been done here in San Francisco, by either photographer Fred Bionnes or Falcon Studios. The boys come to artis-

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Noe Valley House
\$300 share 3 bdrm Mike
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1425 Pine, WC 945-6433
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